When you “udderly” love something, be proud and make it well known. In a fun way, we expressed that by handing out glass udder creamers with the HIPAA COW logo on them to attendees at our October 2019 conference. We all agree HIPAA is an important and serious regulation to implement. That we are able to have a little fun with our logo and the incredible people that participate in HIPAA COW activities, makes it just a little easier to do.

HIPAA COW is fortunate to have so many people with all levels of expertise that are willing to get together and voluntarily share their time and knowledge. This is important in today’s fast changing and technology driven health care environment. We take pride in being able to provide the framework to bring people from throughout the United States together.

Together our volunteer networking groups freely share their successes, issues, and often help to those with questions and uncertainties. Together they continue to collaborate to draft new and updated privacy and security policies and procedures, risk analysis toolkit, and other documents. And these are posted on our website available for anyone to use...for free! Thank you to our dedicated volunteer co-chairs to keep these networking groups active and open to information sharing.

Together, Vice President of Programs, Greg Margrett, and conference planning committee members reached out to bring expert speakers to our April and October 2019 conferences. Taking feedback from previous conference attendees, they made sure several requested topics were covered. Thanks to them, over 420 people were able to attend, learn, and collaborate together at these conferences. Our sponsors continue to support keeping conference fees low and support other activities. A big thank you to all of our 2019 sponsors!

Together, our dedicated volunteer Board of Directors worked to keep this organization successful. We could not have this, however, without the hard work of one very important person: Wendy Ellwein, our contracted Administrative Support and Events Planner. Wendy is an amazing project manager, event planner, and admin support person. We truly appreciate the level enthusiasm, persistence, and skill set she uses to manage Board of Directors activities, support our networking groups, plan our events, keep our website current, and the million other things she does for our organization.

I am looking forward to continuing to work together with people through HIPAA COW in 2020. Let's continue to reach out to more people and organizations, freely share information, and help each other not only achieve HIPAA compliance, but also find the best, most cost effective, and most efficient ways to do it. All while continuing to have fun together at HIPAA COW!

Holly Schlenvogt
HIPAA COW President
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Our Mission
Assist HIPAA Covered Entities, Business Associates, and other interested parties in implementing HIPAA’s Privacy, Security and EDI Standard Transaction provisions, as amended over time.

Foster public education about HIPAA.

Facilitate and streamline HIPAA implementation through identification of best practices.

Reduce duplicate efforts among entities obligated to comply with HIPAA.

Offer opportunities for partnering and collaborating between entities implementing HIPAA.

Identify and evaluate new or difficult HIPAA interpretation issues.
Networking Group
2019 Achievements

**PRIVACY**
» Updated and posted seven privacy deliverables
» Facilitated quarterly Privacy Networking calls as open forum discussions
» Presented a 101 webinar on Privacy and Security
» Participated in developing privacy curriculum for HIPAA COW Spring and Fall conferences

**SECURITY**
» Identified and discussed through monthly meetings important topics that affect security: malware, safeguard effectiveness, breaches, and trends in cybersecurity
» Completed the update of three security policies

**RISK MANAGEMENT**
» Continued to update and improve the Threat Source list component of the Risk Analysis and Risk Management Toolkit
» Shared a myriad of news stories and candidly discussed a variety of information security, threats, vulnerabilities, etc.

**HEALTHCARE IT**
» Held demonstrations and learning sessions from group-requested vendors (KnowB4)
» Increased group membership and participation

**EDI**
» Held educational sessions at the Fall Conference on pertinent EDI topics

We’ve Been Busy!!
Networking Group 
2020 Goals

**PRIVACY**
- Identify and update a minimum of six privacy deliverables
- Facilitate quarterly Privacy Networking calls as open forum discussions
- Present a webinar on current privacy topic - TBD
- Participate in developing privacy curriculum for HIPAA COW Spring and Fall conferences

**SECURITY**
- Target for the update of at least six policies
- Expand or increase monthly meeting participation by 50% of the average attendance for 2019
- Increase the amount of information sharing between meetings amongst members of the networking group (example: periodic mailings to members, surveys, other options that may be available)

**RISK MANAGEMENT**
- Continue to update, improve and maintain the Risk Analysis and Risk Management Toolkit:
  - Finish updating the Threat Source list
  - Incorporate the NIST Cybersecurity Framework into the Risk Management Toolkit
  - Evaluate new features from the OCR and ONC updated Security Risk Assessment Tool for inclusion into the Risk Toolkit

**HEALTHCARE IT**
- Add an additional Co-chair
- Build member participation within Slack
- Complete the Vendor Risk Analysis Exploration
- Continue to recruit non-management, technical members within organizations

**EDI**
- The Board of Directors decided to put the EDI Networking group on hiatus for a number of reasons. There are no immediate mandates regarding transactions, so there has been no need for quarterly calls and there has not been enough content to fill an entire track at our conferences.
- The Board of Directors will continue to monitor topics of interest in the EDI realm and if new content emerges, they will evaluate how to proceed.
Looking Ahead

Upcoming Conference Dates

January 22-24, 2020 – Mega Healthcare Conference
Kalahari Resort, WI Dells

April 24, 2020 – Spring Conference
The Ingleside Hotel, Pewaukee

October 23, 2020 – Fall Conference
Holiday Inn, Stevens Point

Webinars

HIPAA COW offers webinars as a way to present current “hot topics” and to reach out to those in the outlying areas of the state.

Watch for emails and check the website for upcoming webinar dates and topics, as they become available.

Website News

The HIPAA COW website, hipaacow.org, has been a resource to thousands of users. For the 12 months ended September 30, 2019, there were 16,000 users of the site, making almost 25,000 visits. Of those 25,000 visits, over 8,400 originated from Wisconsin users, over 14,000 from other states, and the rest came from throughout the world. There were users from every state in the United States.

The site provides a wealth of information about HIPAA with free access to HIPAA COW deliverables. Users of the website can find information on HIPAA COW and sponsored events, numerous documents related to Privacy and Security issues, presentations on HIPAA, a job board, links to other related websites, and other useful information.

Interest in HIPAA COW conferences drew many visitors, resulting in over 400 registrations at our two conferences. Conference materials can be found on the website.

Many visitors download documents and other resources that are also available on the website. The “Risk Tool Kit” and “HIPAA 101” were the most accessed documents during the year. HIPAA COW does not charge any fees for using the resources available on the website.
Deliverables and Resources

**DELIVERABLES**
Our Networking Groups have put together an enormous number of deliverables that are available for use free of charge. There are currently over 100 deliverables on the website.

**RESOURCES**
In addition to all the deliverables, there is a variety of other resources available for you to use including webinar recordings and website links.

Check them all out on our website **Resources Page**!

Get Involved

To join a HIPAA COW Networking Group, please go to the **Networking Groups Page** on our website and view the “Why should I join a Networking Group?” brochure.

Contact a Networking Group co-chair for details.

Contact Us
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Sponsorship Program

To view the HIPAA COW sponsorship program or to become a 2020 sponsor, please go to our website Sponsorship Page.

Sponsorship is greatly appreciated as it helps to keep our conferences available at a lower cost.