



› Company Profile



Name:
Butler County Health Care Center

Industry:
Critical Access Hospital

Headquarters:
David City, NE

Size:
19 Beds

URL:
www.bchccnet.org

Technology Solutions:
eTX HEMI
eTX Stream

Making Interoperability a Reality for a Critical Access Hospital

› The Company

As a Critical Access Hospital (CAH), Butler County Health Care Center faces added challenges in its effort to improve quality of care and generate greater operational efficiencies. The realities of low patient densities, geographically disparate providers and relatively limited resources impede Butler Country's ability to adopt the latest innovations at the speed of its more urban-based peers.

The leadership team at the David City, Nebraska based hospital had a vision for change – one that included the building and strengthening of its health IT infrastructure, which is critical to improving quality and enabling deliver system transformation. As part of its transformation, Butler Country reassessed all of its existing resources. Through this process, it came to realize that its traditional approach to interfacing, outsourcing it to its HIS vendor, was no longer sufficient to support its vision.

› The Solution

eTX HEMI (Healthcare Enterprise Messaging and Integration), by eTransX, provided the path to make Butler Country's vision a thriving reality. "After sitting through a presentation on integration in a rural setting, it just clicked for me. The eTransX solution made a lot of sense for us on a multitude of levels. We immediately knew it was the right solution for us," said Don Naiberk, CEO, Butler County Health Care Center.

This is when Mr. Naiberk and his team, including Information Systems Director Cindy Neesen, saw the opportunity to take more control of the integration process. They no longer were at the mercy of HIT vendors when it came to creating interfaces.

"The team at eTransX has been great about providing guidance on ways we can keep integration costs down," said Neesen. "They go out of their way to help us avoid unnecessary expenses. We really value their advice when negotiating integration costs with other vendors."

Butler Country was able to capture significant savings shortly after implementing the eTX HEMI integration engine. Naiberk noted "The savings realized from using the system on the very first interface almost entirely offset the cost of the licensing fees. eTransX has demystified the interface process for us and allowed us to use our money more wisely."

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Freeing Up Internal IT Resources

As with many small hospitals, the IT department at Butler Country is having to adapt to a broader scope of responsibilities. In addition to supporting the day-to-day operations of the hospital, the internal IT team is tasked with new, resource-draining charges such as Meaningful Use attestation.

With a small three-person team, keeping up with the demand for application interfaces would have been a daunting task. Rather than stretching resources thin, Butler Country opted to rely on the dedicated support team at eTransX for assistance with the entire integration process, from specifications to deployment.

“The eTransX support team has allowed us to free up staff for other pressing needs. The technical complexities of building an interface presents a real challenge, especially for critical access hospitals where staff resources are in high demand,” said Neesen. She continued, “If all of our software vendors were as easy to work with as eTransX, the conversion to EMR would have been a lot easier.”

Redefining What’s Possible

With its successful transition to eTX HEMI, Butler Country is quickly expanding its use of the high performance interface engine to address other connectivity needs, including the development of bi-directional interfaces with area physician practices, reference laboratories, nursing facilities and cloud-based transcription solutions.

“eTransX enables us to support new initiatives with the speed and confidence that comes with its system capabilities and support. Integration is no longer a “I wonder what that will cost us” scenario. The eTX HEMI system has opened the door to a new world of possibilities for us,” said Naiberk.

Health information technology will play a central role in Butler Country’s ability to maximize operational efficiencies and maintain a strong commitment to patient-focused healthcare. Interoperability of health information, financial and administrative systems is an integral part of this effort.