

# Virtual Lifetime Electronic Records “VLER”

## *Major Initiative 4 Vendor Solutions Symposium*

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## The President's direction forms the basis for VLER



“The DOD and VA will work together to define and build a system that will ultimately contain administrative and medical information from the day an individual enters military service throughout their military career, and after they leave the military.”

President Barack Obama

April 09, 2009

# Initiative 4 VLER

## What is VLER?

Virtual Lifetime Electronic Record (VLER) is a joint venture between Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and Department of Defense (DoD) in an effort to provide portability and accessibility of electronic health, benefits, and administrative information for every Service member, Veteran, and their beneficiaries.





# Initiative 4 VLER

## Really- what is VLER??

The goal of VLER is to establish the interoperability and communication environment necessary to facilitate the rapid exchange of patient and beneficiary information between public and private partners yielding consolidated, coherent and consistent access to electronic records that will enrich support for health, benefits and personnel activities.

Sharing of reliable data from the best possible source.

**D-A-T-A S-H-A-R-I-N-G**



## What VLER is **NOT**



VLER is **NOT** Nationwide Health Information Network (NwHIN)-  
NwHIN is a program within VLER which provides a specific data-sharing technology.

VLER is **NOT** an Electronic Health Record (EHR), though we apologize for the misnomer and the fact that “electronic record” appears in our name.

- EHR will shortly become it's own initiative and rumor has it will supplant VLER as the Secretary's “favorite”.

# Initiative 4 VLER

## Who will use VLER?

### Department of Veterans Affairs

- Veterans Health Administration
- Veterans Benefit Administration

### Department of Defense

- All four branches of the military
- United States Coast Guard

### Other Federal Partners

- Indian Health Services

### Private Sector

- Health Systems
- Primary Care Physicians
- Specialists

### Veterans

- Blue Button

# Initiative 4 VLER

## Initiative Structure

### Executive Product Management Office (EPMO)

- Governance & Executive Level Reporting
- Strategic Direction
- Requirements Management/Brokerage
- “Desk Kicking”

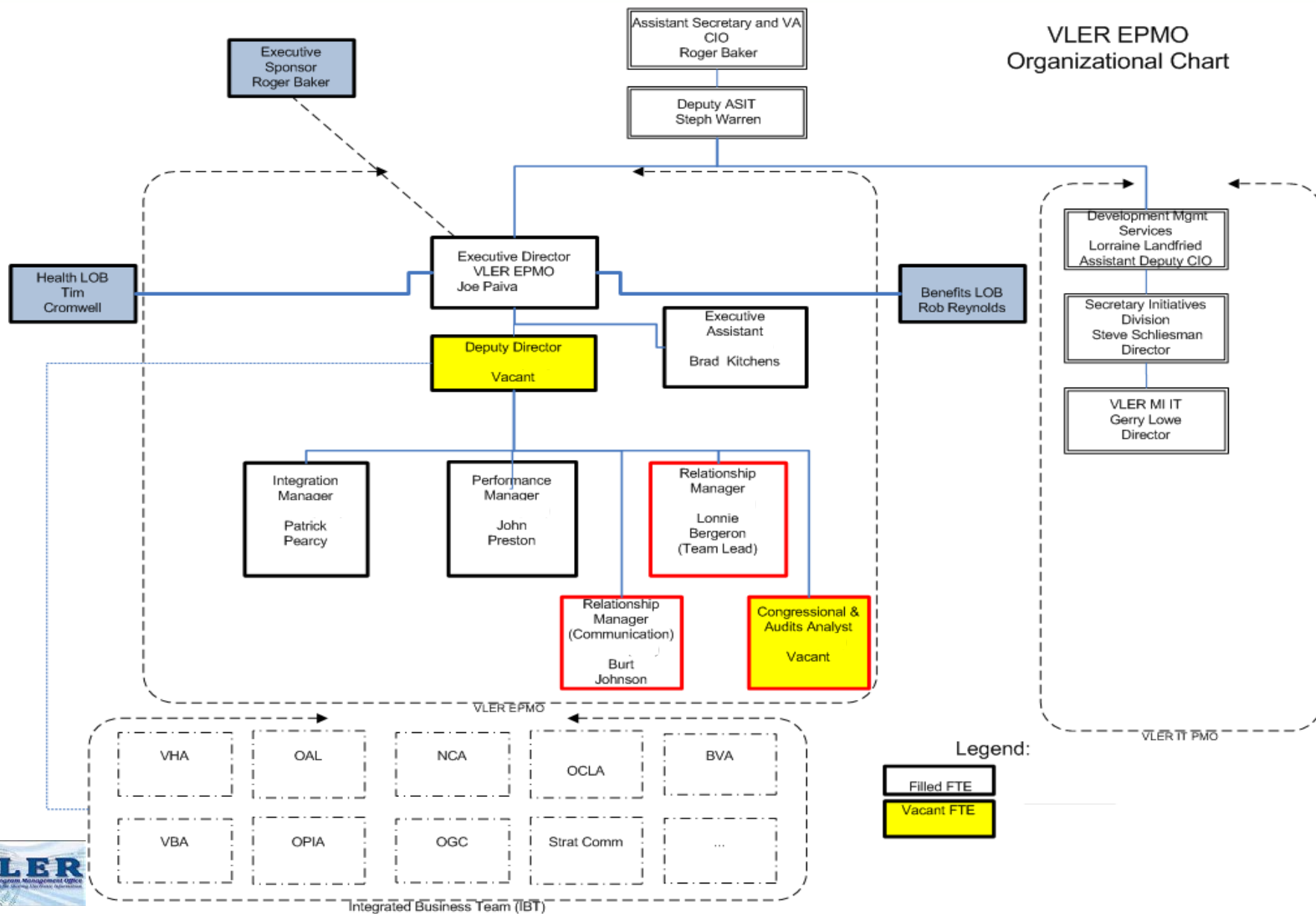


### Information Technology Program Management Office (IT PMO)

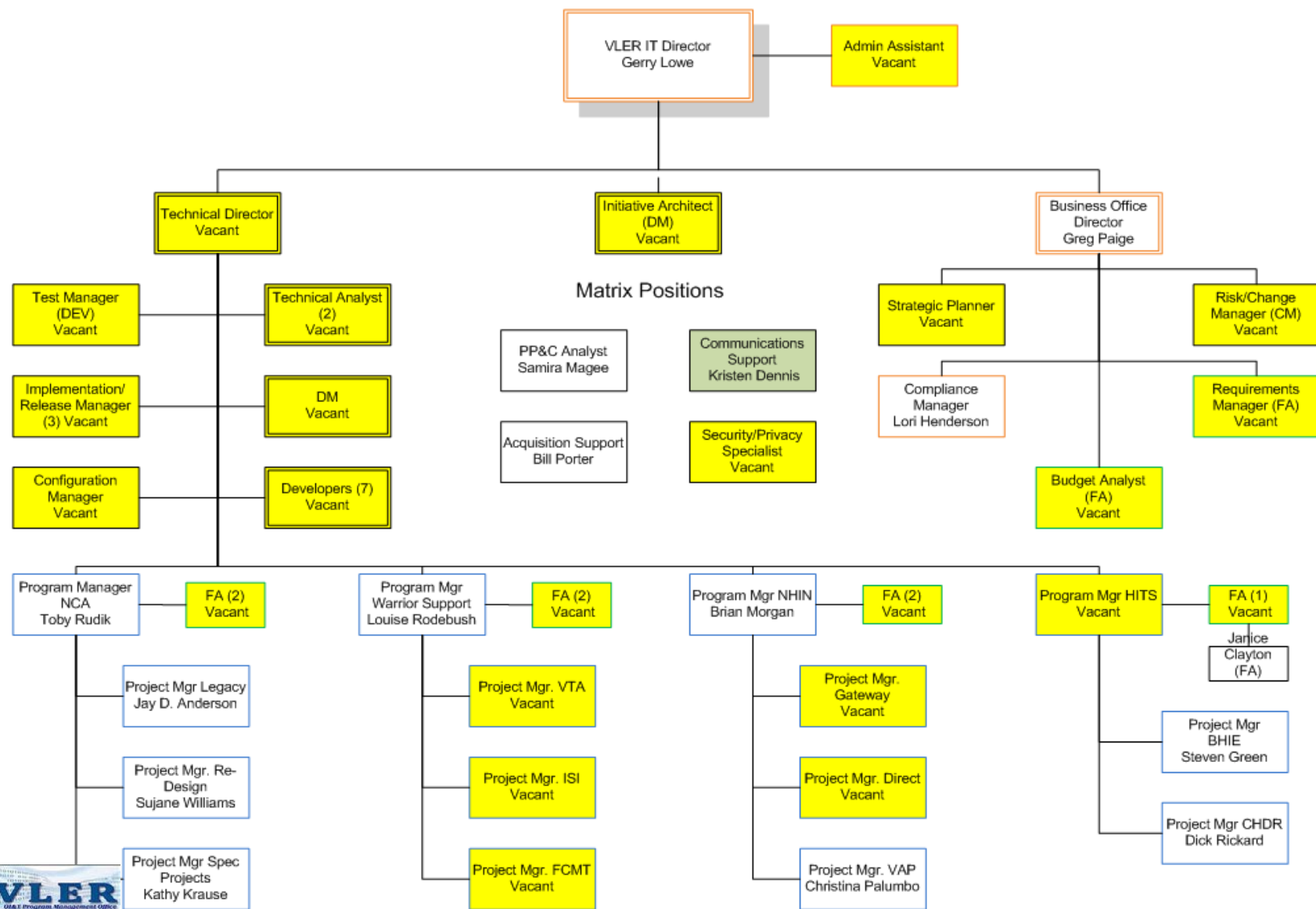




# Initiative 4 VLER EPMO



# Initiative 4 VLER IT PMO



## VLER IT PMO Infrastructure

### Execution & Implementation

- Utilizes the Program Management Accountability System (PMAS) to ensure compliance

### Budget Formulation

- Quad Charts, Budget Tracking Tool (BTT), Enterprise Project Schedule (EPS), and OMB Exhibit 300's

### Acquisition Execution

- Development & Support BPAs, SPAWAR, “Legacy” vehicles

Creation and implementation of a robust/scalable Architecture

Create and Monitor a network of project schedules which roll up to an Integrated Master Schedule (IMS)

Standardization of operational support across all programs in VLER- *a competency within a competency*

## VLER Initiative Implementation



Our process is to implement a common architecture to drive the sharing technology. NwHIN is the backbone. We leverage this technology across all four VLER program areas rather than create stove pipe solutions. This Process is referred to as “convergence”

Functional data exchange needs for VLER implementation are categorized as a series of VCA's. VLER Capability Areas (VCAs) describe the delivery of specific capabilities to service providers, Service members, Veterans, and their beneficiaries and/or designees.



## VLER Capability Areas 1- 4

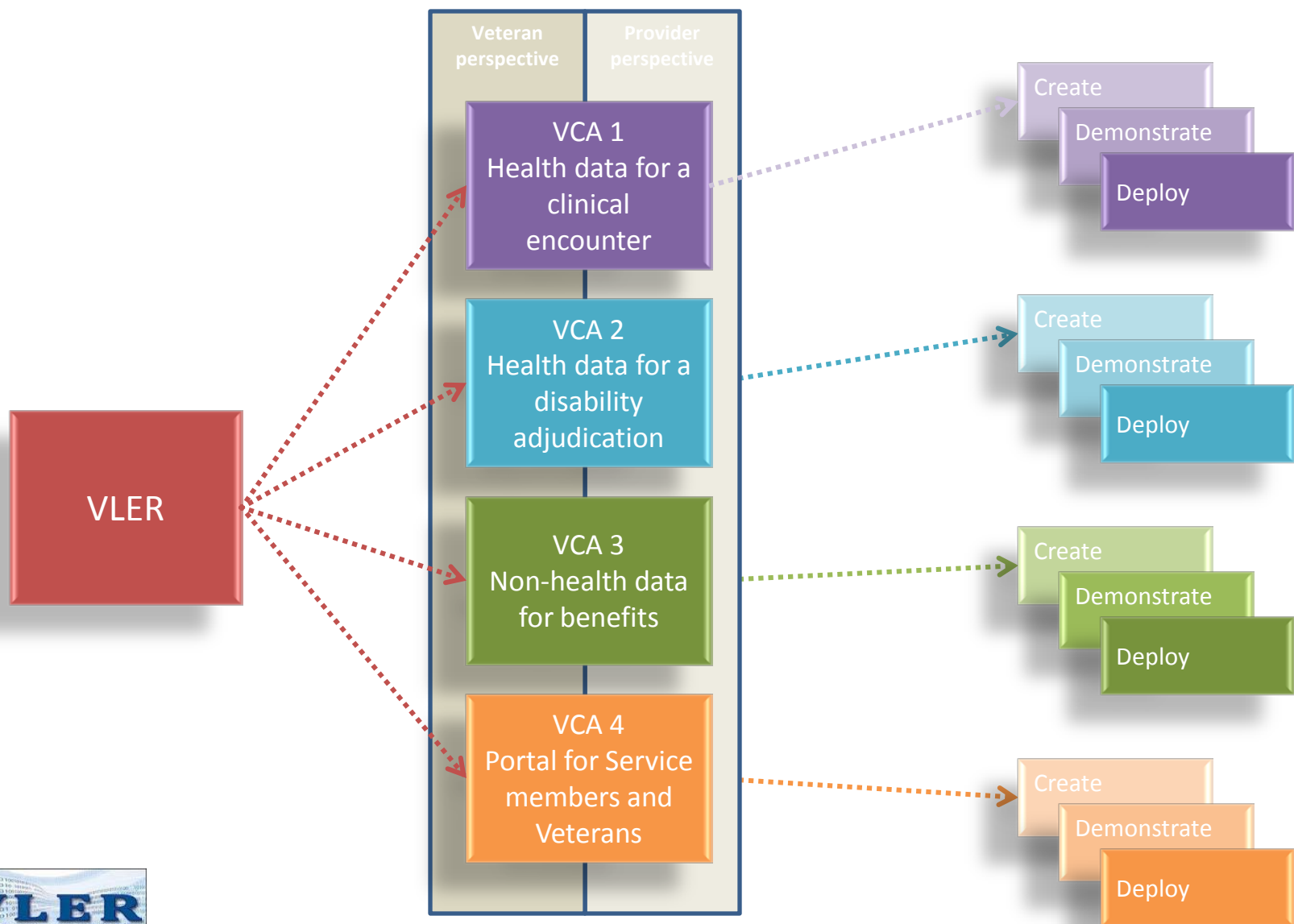
**VCA 1** represents the exchange and availability of **clinical information** needed for the delivery of health care in a clinical setting.

**VCA 2** expands health information from the initial set exchanged in VCA 1 to include the exchange of additional electronic health information for **disability adjudication**.

**VCA 3** completes the information needed for the delivery of the **remaining benefits services**, including other compensation, housing, insurance, education, and memorial benefits.

**VCA 4** This portal provides online access to comprehensive electronic health, benefits, and administrative information. As well as, The ability to **interact directly with benefits providers** in order to apply for, track, and receive services. Full Operational Capability expected to be achieved by December 2014.

# Initiative 4 VLER Capability Areas Map





# Initiative 4 VLER

VLER versus the Mayan calendar...

# FY 2015

# Questions