



## Highlights

- "It has paid for itself and will continue to pay for itself many times over,"

*Jim Brown,*

*Data Resource Manager, Miami Valley Health Improvement Council*

# Miami Valley Health Improvement Council

## CASE STUDY: Miami Valley Health Improvement Council

### ***Non-Profit Health Agency Speeds Survey Process with ABBYY FormReader***

#### **About Miami Valley Health Improvement Council**

Miami Valley Health Improvement Council (MVHIC) is a private, non-profit health agency servicing nine counties in the Miami Valley in Ohio. Its mission is to work with payers, employers, local and state government officials, and health care providers to promote legitimate access, at a reasonable cost, to available quality health care for the citizens of the area.

#### **Thousands of Surveys to Compile**

The agency recently received the largest grant on youth behavior and attitudes in the state. The grant, from the Ohio Tobacco Use, Prevention and Control Foundation, is being used to study tobacco-use behavior among five thousand students ranging in age from elementary-level to high school-level in the valley. Throughout the year, MVHIC compiles over 10 thousand surveys from 200 different schools in an effort to collect tobacco-use data from students, taking in 30 to 50 different surveys from a school at any one time. Previously, the six-person MVHIC would send the completed bubble-form surveys out for compilation and data extraction to various local services, including a local university's statistics center, but with those services came challenges, according to Jim Brown, MVHIC Data Resource Manager. "They were not familiar with the data and had questions, so it took longer (for processing)," he said.

## Value of Data is Increased

With the grant funding from the Ohio tobacco foundation, MVHIC had an opportunity to look for a technology solution that would serve them better. After a quick internet search, Mr. Brown found, purchased, and began utilizing ABBYY FormReader for his survey-compilation process. With the help of Formtran, a ABBYY certified reseller, MVHIC was using FormReader within a few days.

Mr. Brown and one other data entry specialist from MVHIC use a Canon scanner to scan the surveys, which are assigned with school codes. ABBYY FormReader then extracts the data and downloads that data to a Microsoft Excel file that allows the agency to better analyze the incoming surveys. By taking the data capturing service in-house, MVHIC is able to remove errors in data reporting. "The data is so much more representative," said Mr. Brown. "And using FormReader gives us a hands-on ability to review the data," he said.

Mr. Brown said that with ABBYY FormReader, MVHIC is able to maintain a higher degree of integrity to their data because they are able to apply the appropriate results to the appropriate county, a task they were not able to do when the agency outsourced the data compilation process.

"It (ABBYY FormReader) has certainly paid for itself and will continue to pay for itself many times over," said Mr. Brown.

*Case Study - Miami Valley Health Improvement Council*



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