

## CASE STUDY

# Tintri IntelliFlash™ Picked by Michigan's Largest Federally Qualified Health Center

# IntelliFlash



Cherry Health

Cherry Health is an independent, non-profit Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) with a primary focus on providing high-quality health services to those who have little or no access to healthcare, regardless of income or insurance status. Established in 1988, Cherry Health operates more than twenty sites in the counties of Barry, Kent, Montcalm, and Wayne in Michigan and currently has a network of over 60 physician and mid-level providers specializing in primary care/family medicine, pediatrics, internal medicine, obstetrics/gynecology, optometry, and psychiatry.

With a focus on making patients its top priority, Cherry Health reports several quality measures and maintains national accreditations based on its quality standards, which must be renewed on a regular basis. Among the medical laws, regulations and commissions that Cherry Health must comply with are the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health (HITECH) Act, Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF), Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO), and the Office of the Attorney General (OAG).

## The Challenge: Balancing Fast Access to Patient Records With Massive Database Growth

Five years ago, Cherry Health moved from a primarily paper-based record system to maintaining electronic versions for both better access for providers to serve their patients, as well as for controlling access to medical information within the organization. Cherry Health operates completely in a thin-client environment to ensure the security of patient information. It runs Citrix Xen applications with records accessible via thin-mobile devices. That way, if a mobile device is lost or stolen, there is no data stored locally on the device itself, ensuring there is no breach of information or data loss.

"Data has grown tremendously since we've started electronic medical records—we've quadrupled in our data storage of what we had six years ago," said Ken Brower, CIO of Cherry Health. "Before, when we were in a paper world, we had a paper chart. Now that data is done electronically, we not only need our production data, we need development databases, we need reporting databases, we need training databases, and we need test lab databases. So really all of that storage, in a lot of cases, we're repeating five times just for what we would have had in a normal production environment."

With the need for its providers to access patient information quickly and regulatory pressure driving a lot of database growth, Cherry Health looked for a storage system where it could put all of its Tier 1 applications that needed to stay up and running.

## The Solution: Tintri IntelliFlash T-Series

When it comes to storing, protecting and accessing business-critical information, IntelliFlash delivers sustained performance, resiliency and economics that enable organizations like Cherry Health to accelerate their operations while lowering storage infrastructure costs.

Tintri's portfolio of IntelliFlash solutions helps reduce database transaction wait times to sub-milliseconds and increase throughput by accelerating redo log writes; scale databases by virtualizing and consolidating more servers while overcoming challenges of I/O blending in a virtual environment; and help alleviate end-user challenges during peak usage times with massive bandwidth allocation and IOPS availability.

Databases often contain business-critical data that has to be protected and available 24x7. When deployed with IntelliFlash, databases benefit from the resilience, end-to-end data integrity, and high availability features inherent in the system. Additionally, with flash-optimized

## Challenges

- Medical laws, regulations and commissions placing new pressures on IT
- Massive data sprawl challenges
- Old processes slowing down patient care

## Solution

- Tintri IntelliFlash T-Series

## Results

- 62,000 more patient visits per year by accelerating IT with flash storage
- Regulatory pressures addressed with state-of-the-art EMR systems
- Data sprawl under control

RAID protection and zero-copy clones, IntelliFlash systems provide the perfect platform to store and manage mission-critical information.

IntelliFlash systems are fully redundant with no single point of failure. The bundled features include VM-consistent, space-efficient snapshots, and bandwidth-efficient remote replication. With IntelliFlash, organizations have comprehensive data protection and high availability, ensuring 24x7 desktop and data availability for end users.

## The Results: Quick Access to Enable Good Patient Care

As with any of the systems Cherry Health evaluates, IntelliFlash was looked at for its fault tolerances and redundancy. Before putting it into live production, Brower's team used IntelliFlash with its production software and physically ripped out controllers, pulled disks and cables, and did "just about everything" to see if they would fail in the organization's virtualized server environment.

After a successful five-month proof-of-concept and testing to ensure that it would stand up to the rigors of day-to-day operations, Cherry Health began utilizing the speed and performance of IntelliFlash to use with its Tier 1 applications within its production environment. The extra speed allows providers at Cherry Health to focus on the quality of care they are giving their patients while improving the number of patients seen.

"The more patients the provider can see in a day, it means we're actually giving better healthcare," said Brower. "If our providers can see one extra patient per day, we can see 62,000 extra patients per year. Without that speed, that would be 62,000 patients who very possibly would not have been seen by their physician."

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*Ken Brower, CIO, Cherry Health*

Experience Different! For more information on how Tintri IntelliFlash can turbo-charge your business success through a simple, Intelligent Infrastructure, visit [tintri.com/intelliflash](http://tintri.com/intelliflash).