

MEMO

To: CONNECTIONS Implementation Coordinators, CONNECTIONS Security Coordinators/Back-up Security Coordinators, Directors of Services and Executive Directors
CC: LAN Administrators
From: CONNECTIONS Communications
Date: December 2, 2004

Re.: Field Test and Preview for CONNECTIONS Case Management (Build 18)

Field Test for CONNECTIONS Case Management (Build 18)

The CONNECTIONS Project is introducing a field test in order to examine and apply the functionality that will be implemented in CONNECTIONS Case Management (Build 18). This field test is currently scheduled to begin on Tuesday, December 14, 2004, and will include the collaborative efforts of both the Oswego County Department of Social Services, as well as associated key voluntary agencies that work in conjunction with the local district. The voluntary agencies that will be participating in the field test are: Liberty Resources, Oswego Opportunities and Catholic Charities of Oswego.

The impetus behind the implementation of this field test is the project team's commitment to deliver a quality product to the field that works as designed, and meets the full needs of current, as well as future users of the CONNECTIONS system.

As you are aware, prior to the implementation of any Build, the CONNECTIONS Application, and any new or modified functionality, is subject to multiple testing cycles beginning with a unit test, performed by the developer, as well as product testing, which tests the integration of multiple programs, User Acceptance Testing (UAT), which tests the Application against the requirements that the Application is designed to meet, and stress testing, which emulates the traffic and volume of production on the Application. Thus, the field test extends the testing cycle and is designed to test the Application from a job function perspective. That is that it will meet the business needs of the end user.

The Oswego County Department of Social Services, and the key voluntary agencies that work in conjunction with the local district, volunteered to be a pilot test site for the field test. They were selected to participate based on the fact that all entities involved met the designated criteria for this activity. OCFS is grateful to the local district and the voluntary agencies for their willingness to participate and the tremendous effort that they have devoted to this important task.

Further communications related to the ongoing activities of the field test will be forthcoming.

Preview for CONNECTIONS Case Management (Build 18)

It should be noted that Preview will be made available to the field test participants on Tuesday, December 14, 2004. Although the Preview environment will also be available to local districts and voluntary agencies involved in Waves 1 through 5 on December 14th, we request that Preview not be used by those local districts and agencies at that time. We expect the Preview environment will be made available for districts and agencies involved in Waves 1 through 5 after the first of the year. We will both local districts and voluntary agencies, involved in Waves 1 through 5 when you may start using the preview environment. We thank you, in advance, for your cooperation in this matter.