

*~The CONNECTIONS WEEKLY~*  
*March 24 ~ 31, 2006*



***Post CONNECTIONS Build 18.7.3 Daily Updates...***

Please note that there have been daily updates regarding system issues forwarded to local district and voluntary agency Implementation, Security, Back-up Security Coordinators, Directors of Service and Resource Users. These updates are also posted on the CONNECTIONS website.

We continue to make resolution of these issues our highest priority and we will continue to report our progress in subsequent communications.

If you have any questions related to the application you can also contact the CONNECTIONS Implementation Field staff who are stationed in each Regional Office. Contact information for the field staff can be found on the CONNECTIONS intranet website, on the Contact Us page. The address of the website is: <http://ocfs.state.nyenet/connect/>.

We thank you for your continued partnership while we work to remediate the system issues.

***Updated Information About the CITRIX Client ~ Program Neighborhood Agent Access...***

**\*\*Please note:** Access to the CONNECTIONS application from the CONNECTIONS website, will *not be* decommissioned today, Friday March 24th. Access will be decommissioned on *Friday, March 31<sup>st</sup>*.

The access point for the CONNECTIONS application was changed during the implementation of Build 18. At that time, all users were instructed to use the Citrix Program Neighborhood Agent (PN Agent) as the only access point for the CONNECTIONS application. However, it has recently come to our attention that some users are still using the old method (CONNECTIONS website) as an access point for the CONNECTIONS application. All users must now use the recommended method, the PN Agent, to access the CONNECTIONS Application. Accessing the application through the PN Agent does not change the functionality of the application it only changes the way the CONNECTIONS application is accessed. This PN Agent allows for easier and more secure access to the CONNECTIONS Production and Training environments. Instructions describing how to install the PN Agent either from the OCFSShare (version 8.00.24737) or, from the Autorun CD (version 8.00.24737), are available on the CONNECTIONS website.

## ***NIS Agency Access to the OCFS Data Warehouse Cognos ReportNet Environment...***

We are pleased to announce that NIS agency staff can now access the Cognos ReportNet environment of the OCFS Data Warehouse. The Cognos ReportNet environment contains predefined FASP reports and will be the location for all future predefined Case Management reports. Please note that there are two things that must be done ahead of time by NIS agency staff, in order for access to be finalized:

- The LAN Administrator must complete Steps 1 & 2 of the "NIS Agency Server Set-up" instructions (attached below and posted to the CONNECTIONS intranet on the Data Warehouse page).
- Agency staff that want to view the predefined reports must have been granted access to the Cognos ReportNet environment. If you have already requested and been granted access, follow Step 3 of the "NIS Agency Server Set-up" instructions. If you have not requested or been granted access, email the Data Warehouse Team at [data.warehouse@ocfs.state.ny.us](mailto:data.warehouse@ocfs.state.ny.us) with your full name and NT User ID, and cc your Director on the email.

***Important:*** The "Server Set-up" instructions are for NIS agencies only. If you are not sure whether you are an NIS Agency, ask your LAN Administrator.

Voluntary agencies that connect directly to the State HSEN network (T-line, CIAB) are already set-up for access to Cognos ReportNet, so their staff with access to Cognos ReportNet can view the FASP reports now. We are currently working with OFT to provide a different set of server set-up instructions for Voluntary agencies that connect to the State network via SSL/VPN. We appreciate your patience while we complete this process.

Visit the Data Warehouse page of the CONNECTIONS Intranet site for documentation about Cognos ReportNet and the FASP reports. If you have any questions you can contact the Data Warehouse Team at [data.warehouse@ocfs.state.ny.us](mailto:data.warehouse@ocfs.state.ny.us) with any questions.



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Set-up for C...

## ***New Postings to the CONNECTIONS Intranet...***

The following documents were recently posted to the CONNECTIONS intranet website.

- Post CONNECTIONS Build 18.7.3 System Issues Updates
- CONNECTIONS Weekly for the week of March 17-23, 2006
- NIS Agency Server Instructions

## ***When CONNECTIONS Will Be Unavailable...***

- ***Wednesday, 3/29/06*** from 5:00 AM – 7:00 AM
- ***Friday, 3/31/06*** from 5:00 AM – 7:00 AM