

..THE CONNECTIONS WEEKLY..

May 16 - 23, 2008



The Code Fix Ran Successfully!!!

The code fix that was scheduled for last Friday evening, May 9th, was successfully deployed! The fix related to the SAVE function, that when used after launching a **new Multiple Child PHR**, was found to have been incompatible with the Oracle 10G database upgrade that had been recently implemented.

Multiple Child PHR's can now be successfully saved in CONNECTIONS. If a template PHR has been used prior to the fix, you may launch a Multiple Child PHR in CONNECTIONS, select the no-prefill option and copy the template report into the system.

The Portable Information Technology Demonstration Project - An Invitation to Participate...

On Thursday, May 15th, a communication was forwarded to local district Commissioners inviting them to participate in the Portable Information Technology Demonstration Project. All districts, including those that participated in the pilot and demonstration phases, are eligible to participate in this year's project. The project has two objectives:

- to determine best practices in portable information technology for child protective services (CPS) caseworkers; and
- to streamline the CPS workforce's workload by permitting CPS caseworkers to work from field locations while investigating allegations of child abuse and maltreatment.

Two documents were included in the communication that further describe both the project and the application process. The first document is a letter, penned by William E. Travis, Jr., Deputy Commissioner, OCFS Division of Information Technology that provides a view of the project, as well as contact information; the attachment specifies the required contents of letters requesting participation, and the criteria OCFS will use to evaluate local district responses.

For further information related to the OCFS reports on the pilot, expanded pilot and demonstration phase of the project, including the CTG evaluations, we refer you to the

postings on the OCFS internet site at the following address:
<http://www.ocfs.state.ny.us/main/reports>.

For your reference, these documents are posted to the Home page of the CONNECTIONS intranet website.

An Update on the Summary of Characteristics Report...

Please note that this piece is pertinent to local districts only.

On Monday, May 12th, we sent a communication out to notify you that the Summary of Characteristics Reports ran successfully. This report provides the recipient with statistics about intakes and investigations. The total number of intakes and cases received for the current month and year to date is shown for each unit. The report also contains summary information on the number of abused or maltreated children involved in those intakes, subsequent investigations, and cases. A second page of the report gives summary year to date information on all of the allegations received within a particular unit. Please note that designated individuals (report recipients are designated by the Director of Services of each local district) at each local district receive this report.

Preview Refresh...

Just so that you know, the Preview environment will be refreshed this evening - Friday, May 16th. We will keep you posted if this schedule changes.

CONNECTIONS Stats and Fun Facts....

Maybe you were wondering, hmmm..., how many system users REALLY do use the application????????????? Well....here are the 'stats', and usage is on the rise!!!

In 2006 the highest usage was: 12,906 system users; in 2007 the number significantly rose to: 14,366 and so far in 2008 the number is: 14,871.

An Upgrade to Internet Explorer Version 7...

(This piece was in the Weekly last week.)

The Office for Technology (OFT) has announced the date for the upgrade to Internet Explorer 7.

On June 6, 2008, CIO/OFT will use Windows Server Update Services (WSUS) to upgrade Internet Explorer to Version 7 for HSEN customer machines. Installation will occur during regular update periods and no action is required of users or administrators in order for this upgrade to occur.

This upgrade will EXCLUDE customer machines running Windows 2000, because Internet Explorer Version 7 does not run on Windows 2000 machines.

OCFS IT had completed testing its images and applications earlier this year and is anticipating a successful upgrade to Internet Explorer 7.

"Did You Know"...

On the Topic of Discharges...

Since the implementation of Build 18.9, you have been able to delete a Discharge Protocol that was launched in error or where the incorrect version was selected. If you

have launched a Discharge Protocol in error, or selected the incorrect version and recorded any information on it, you are able to delete the information from the *Discharges* window. To do so, click on the **Options** menu, and select the **Delete Protocol** option, the following message will display:

"This Discharge information will be deleted for all children. Do you wish to continue?"

Clicking the **Yes** button will delete the selected discharge protocol information and the label for the deleted protocol will update to **New**. If you selected the incorrect discharge type you can select the appropriate discharge type and complete the protocol. Selecting the **No** button will bring you back to the *Discharges* window. Selecting the **Close** button closes the *Discharges* window.

Please note that when a discharge protocol is deleted, it is deleted for *all* children in a stage, not just the selected child.

New Postings to the CONNECTIONS Intranet...

The following document(s) were recently posted to the CONNECTIONS intranet website:

- *The CONNECTIONS Weekly for the week of May 16, 2008*
- *Letter and attachment regarding the Portable Information Technology Project*

Weekly System Maintenance...

Due to regularly scheduled system maintenance, the CONNECTIONS application will not be available on...

- Friday, 5/16/08 from 5:00 AM - 7:00 AM
- Wednesday, 5/21/08 from 5:00 AM - 7:00 AM
- Friday, 5/23/08 from 5:00 AM - 7:00 AM