



..CONNECTIONS NEWS..

for the week of February 20 - 27, 2009

Developing a more caseworker centric system

CONNECTIONS Intranet site: <http://ocfs.state.nyenet/connect/>

FEATURED IN THIS EDITION

"Info to Know" for Caseworkers

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General "Info to Know"

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"Info to Know" for Caseworkers



****UPDATE** *ALERT**** *OCI Monthly Report Series for January 2009*

The January 2009 OCI Monthly Report Series (the Monthly Management Report, the Monthly Management Summary Report and the Statewide Totals Report) was re-run on Wednesday 2/18/09. It should be noted that this run used the existing code that reflects caseloads as of the end of the month, but picks up work completed between the last day of the month and the report run date. Thus, Safety Assessments and Investigation Conclusions due/overdue in January but completed/approved between 1/31 and 2/17 are not reflected in overdue totals. This older report code was to be modified (SIR 4059) to reflect both workload and overdue work as of the end of the month, however the

implementation of the modified code was unsuccessful. We are currently testing the new code, and anticipate using the new code for the February reports which will run on March 6, 2009.

In the interim, because the overdue totals for January are under counted, we suggest that you refer to the following Data Warehouse Reports for this data:

Overdue Reports...Provides detail on CPS reports that are currently overdue and/or overdue as of the date entered at the prompt.

Safety Assessments Overdue...Provides a detailed list of Safety Assessments that were approved more than 7 days after the Intake Start Date for a particular month and year.

If you have any questions related to this communication we ask that you contact your regional CONNECTIONS Implementation staff.

General "Info to Know"



Training Information

Two New Links Now Available on the CONNECTIONS Intranet for Searching the Upcoming Training Schedule

There are now two links available on the Training page of the CONNECTIONS intranet site so that you can search the list of upcoming trainings. Just go to the Training page, click on the Training Schedule link, or use the following link:
<http://ocfs.state.nyenet/connect/training/schedule.asp>

One link is for local district staff to search upcoming trainings pertinent to them and the other is for Voluntary Agencies to search upcoming trainings that are pertinent to them. There are tips on what to select on the search menu also on the web page.

In addition, there is now a link for contact information for Technical Support for STARS (Statewide Training Automated Registration System).



OCFS Data Warehouse Info - Updated Postings

Two Data Warehouse documents have been updated and posted to the CONNECTIONS intranet site. They are the Children Served With Missing Clinical Diagnosis Data Definitions:

<http://ocfs.state.nyenet/connect/datawarehouse/Children%20Served%20with%20Missing%20Clinical%20Diagnosis1.doc>

and the Children Served With Missing Clinical Diagnosis FAQs:

<http://ocfs.state.nyenet/connect/datawarehouse/Children%20with%20Missing%20Diagnosis%20II%20FAQ.doc>.

Both documents are posted to the OCFS Data Warehouse page of the site. The FAQ document answers questions like:

Question: "Why do children who do not have a CONNECTIONS Program Choice of "Placement" appear on the report?"

Answer: The AFCARS population is defined from information in CCRS, which remains the system of record for placement. The CONNECTIONS Program Choice is not considered.

GIS

General Information System (09-003)

WMS Services Edits on Sex and Other Name

* The information below pertains to local districts only.

TO: Directors of Services

FROM: Paul Gavry

SUGGESTED DISTRIBUTION: Directors of Services, Services Caseworkers and Supervisors, Data Entry Operators

SUBJECT: WMS Services edits on Sex and Other Name

EFFECTIVE DATE: February 13, 2009

CONTACT: OCFS-IT Customer Support at 1-800-342-3727

The purpose of this General Information System (GIS) message is to provide local departments of social services (LDSS) with information regarding edit changes affecting input of "Other Names" in WMS Services (CT 40) cases.

The January 23, 2009 *WMS/CNS Coordinator letter* issued by OTDA/DOH advised of changes to Application Registration resulting from New York State's acknowledgement of same sex marriages. Specifically, edit 0220 was lifted, allowing use of code M (Maiden name) in the Other Name area on Screen 2 for *both* Male and Female case members.

Changes to Services Full Data Entry and Under Care Maintenance edits were also required.

Effective 2/16/09, Services transactions WSEWK2 and WSUWK1 will allow input of "Other Name" with "Other Name Code" = M (Maiden) when the individual's sex = M (Male).

This change will eliminate current error: "914 - WHEN OTHER NAME CODE IS M, SEX MUST BE F"

The WMS Services error guide has been updated to reflect these changes and is available in Public Folders at the following path:

*All Public Folders/dfa.state.ny.us/OCFS/TSU/ ***Services systems Reference Documents/ WMS Services reference documents*

For systems questions, please contact OCFS-IT Customer Support at 1-800-342-3727.

All GIS messages are available in Public Folders at the following path:

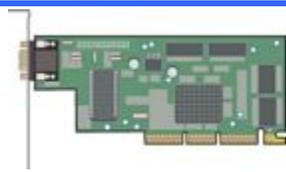
*All Public Folders/dfa.state.ny.us/OCFS/TSU/ ***Services systems Reference Documents/ GIS (system change notices)*



NEW Postings to the CONNECTIONS Intranet

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

- **Children Served With Missing Clinical Diagnosis Data Definitions**
<http://ocfs.state.nyenet/connect/datawarehouse/Children%20Served%20with%20Missing%20Clinical%20Diagnosis1.doc>
- **Children Served With Missing Clinical Diagnosis FAQs**
<http://ocfs.state.nyenet/connect/datawarehouse/Children%20with%20Missing%20Diagnosis%20II%20FAQ.doc>
- **...CONNECTIONS NEWS...**
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Weekly System Maintenance

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

- **Wednesday, 2/25/09** from 5:00 AM - 7:00 AM
- **Friday, 2/27/09** from 5:00 AM - 7:00 AM



Office of
Children & Family
Services
Gladys Carrión, Esq.
Commissioner