

CONNECTIONS Build 18.9.6 Overview

Our current focus is on the remaining, short term FIT recommendations, additional user requests and system support for mission critical tasks and legislation.

1. Responses to Functional Improvement Team requests (these are the remaining short term items not included in previous builds)

- A comment box will be added to the Life Skills Assessment where the user can document information with regard to these assessments.
- Adding a grammar check to narrative areas and an improved spell check to narrative areas and comment boxes to provide more Word-like functionality in these areas.
- Service Plan area of the FASP will now include Outcome and Activity blocks that were recently discontinued in the FASP output so that workers have the full picture of what has occurred.

2. User Requests

- VA workers will now be informed that there are reports prior to 1/1/2006 (date of ADM) - These reports will be listed on the CPRS and FSS Case Summary tabs providing a more complete view of the CPS history.
- New progress note values have been created that will allow the field to summarize their cross reference history. This progress note type will not be viewable by Voluntary Agency workers in INV stages. These progress note types may now be entered prior to a 24 Hour Contact. This was previously a user limitation.
- 2 additional progress note types will be created for those districts using higher level edits - Notice & Approval.
- More appropriate Day Care/Foster Care Investigation closure reasons will be added in accordance with programmatic need.
- FAD workers will now be informed when a CPS case involving a foster parent is determined.
- The Permanency Hearing Petitioner information will now be enterable within Connections and included on the outputs.
- The To-Do list displayed to user will now include all To-Do's coming due within the next 30 days. This view assists the worker in managing the approval of the FASPs coming due.

3. New Legislation\Program Initiatives\Support of Federal Requirements

- Support for 2007 legislation regarding FBI Fingerprinting and out of state AB/MA checks will be implemented in the Foster/Adoptive Home Record summary.
- B2H - The Home and Community Based Waiver initiative is a waiver program designed to transition individuals who are traditionally institutionalized into a more community based setting.
- AFCARS - Includes capturing the necessary, remaining elements for AFCARS compliance in order to improve NY's submission. The design builds on some existing windows in order to compliment the existing workflow and minimizes worker impact. This effort was undertaken at this time due to the delay of B19 functionality in order to preserve future funding.

4. Identified Fixes

Numerous (50-60) identified fixes in areas such as performance, system errors and access to data are also included in the build.