

*~ The CONNECTIONS WEEKLY ~*  
*August 4 ~ 11, 2006*



***The CONNECTIONS Program Improvement Plan Update...***

The CONNECTIONS PIP (CPIP) team continues to monitor the system to track performance and asks that if users experience any issues with the application they report them to the NYS OFT Enterprise Help Desk at 1-800-NYS (697)-1323. The CPIP team thanks you for your continued assistance in this regard!

***Activities for the week of July 28 ~ August 4, 2006***

The CONNECTIONS PIP is developing the CPIP Phase II plan and has scheduled August 8<sup>th</sup> as the date to determine which projects will be involved in the plan. In that regard, it should be noted that the project includes the task of building and maintaining a testing environment that is robust enough to run tests and extrapolate the performance of the peak production workload prior to the deployment of a Build so that performance related system issues can be identified and remediated before a Build is deployed. By incorporating both performance and stress testing, in addition to the application UAT currently performed, as part of the system development methodology for each application Build and software upgrade, the following benefits can be anticipated:

- An increase in system availability by detecting problems prior to migrating them into the production environment
- A reduction in response time to the remediation of identified issues
- The ability to take a proactive stance when dealing with hardware/software issues

All of these benefits will provide users with a more thoroughly tested application yielding a smooth transition in functionality, when a Build is implemented or an issue identified.

***Build 18.9 Info...***

As you are aware, the implementation of Build 18.9 is scheduled for December 2006. For a highlight of the information on the content of the Build we refer you to the handout that was presented at the NYPWA conference which is posted to the CONNECTIONS intranet website, on the Home page.

### ***Installation and Troubleshooting Guide for SSL-VPN CONNECTIONS Access...***

The long awaited Guide has been vetted by both the Office for Technology and the Office of Children and Family Services and is posted to the Home page of the CONNECTIONS intranet!

### ***Notification of the Permanency Alert Daily Batch Run...***

Earlier this week a communication was sent regarding the Permanency Alert Daily Batch that had not run successfully since Friday (July 28th). As you know, this batch produces alerts in CONNECTIONS for permanency related plan updates and reviews based on CCRS legal entries. We are pleased to report that the problem with the batch has been identified, and we have caught up with batch runs.

### ***An Update Regarding the Opening, Recertification and Generation of the FAD Record Summary (FRS)...***

Earlier in the week, it had come to our attention that there were sporadic problems submitting Foster Home openings and recertification's, as well as the generation of the FAD Record Summary (FRS). We are pleased to report that the Technical team has identified and remediated this issue!

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

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

- The CONNECTIONS Weekly
- Notification of the Permanency Alert Daily Batch Run communication
- Issues Regarding the Opening, Recertification and Generation of the FAD Record Summary (FRS) communication
- Installation and Troubleshooting Guide for SSL-VPN CONNECTIONS Access

### ***Weekly System Maintenance... CONNECTIONS Application Downtime...***

- ***Friday, 8/4/06*** from 5:00 AM – 7:00 AM
- ***Wednesday, 8/9/06*** from 5:00 AM – 7:00 AM
- ***Friday, 8/11/06*** from 5:00 AM – 7:00 AM