~ The CONNECTIONS WEEKLY ~
December 22 ~ 29, 2006

The Direction of CONNECTIONS...

As we identified in the Weekly last week, the scheduled implementation date for Build 18.9 is Friday, March 23, 2007. We are currently conducting User Acceptance Testing for this Build and will be issuing the Build Highlights document at the end of January 2007.   We have also developed tools to assist in the implementation of the Build, and, as such, recently introduced the Impact Analysis for Build 18.9 Security as well as Questions and Answers from the Build 18.9 Forums. We will soon be releasing an updated version of the Business Process Redesign Manual, which includes information regarding the functionality that is currently included in Build 18.9.

We are moving in the direction of sculpting the contents of future Builds and will be meeting with line staff from both local districts and voluntary agencies during the first quarter of 2007 to listen to their issues related to the way that the application currently operates. We look forward to the chance to meet with you and will keep you current about any future system modifications!

Build 18.9 Tools ~ The Impact Analysis for Build 18.9 Security...

In preparation for the Build implementation, we have drafted an Impact Analysis related to the security that will be necessary to compliment the functionality of the Build. The document is posted to the CONNECTIONS intranet site and can be accessed via the following path: http://ocfs.state.nyenet/connect/ > Implementation button > Current Build Information CONNECTIONS Build 18 > Build Information >Build 18.9 Reference Documents.

Questions & Answers from the Build 18.9 Forums...

You asked the questions, we have provided the answers! Many very insightful questions were asked at the Build 18.9 Forums that were held across the state during the summer. At that time, we made a commitment to collect and answer all of your very valuable questions. This task has been accomplished! The answers come to you through a concerted effort on the part of staff from

CONNECTIONS partnering with our agency's Policy and Legal divisions. For your reference, both the questions and answers are posted, in a categorized format, including topics such as Health, the Permanency Hearing Report, Education and a few others. The document has been posted to the Home page of the CONNECTIONS intranet site.

CIN PID Interface Application…

We are doing an inventory of the users that access the CINPID application. This application is accessed through signing onto CITRIX ~ when you sign on you have the option of accessing either CONNECTIONS production, the Policy Library, or CINPID. We ask that if you currently access this application you let your CONNECTIONS Implementation Field representative know. If the outcome of this inventory is that this application is accessed on a limited basis, we would like to archive it and remove the Icon from the CITRIX logon page early in 2007.

New Postings to the CONNECTIONS Intranet…

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

- The CONNECTIONS Weekly

Weekly System Maintenance…
CONNECTIONS Application Downtime…

- ***Friday, 12/22/06*** from 5:00 AM – 7:00 AM
- ***Wednesday, 12/27/06*** from 5:00 AM – 7:00 AM
- ***Friday 12/29/06*** from 5:00 AM – 7:00 AM