

The CONNECTIONS Transformation News

We have designed this newsletter as a way to keep you informed about the fast paced progress of the transformation of the CONNECTIONS application and technical system.

Our plan is to communicate with you on a quarterly basis about the exciting milestones and achievements that we are currently developing and implementing. The transformation is based on feedback from the field and will offer improved, faster navigation while reducing the level of training. Trainings will be Web-based and via iLinc.

Gladys Carrión, Esq. Commissioner

“Top Ten” System Improvements to CONNECTIONS Transformation

- easier navigation
- whole screen view and zoom magnification options
- ability to have more than 1 stage open at the same time
- ability to customize the set up of workloads
- ability to see more information – your assigned business functions
- navigation pane is always visible
- ability to sort and filter how information is displayed in grids on the workload
- the ability to hover over a stage to see the list of people in a stage
- all types of searches – person/case/stage/staff/unit/security/resource/f/a home – begin in the same place
- master windows show more information with fewer clicks

When We Begin ... As detailed in a letter sent recently, pilots will begin for two local districts in mid-December. Statewide deployment will begin in April 2011.

Get Ready, Get Set, Go...

We have been communicating with caseworkers, supervisors and managers about “prep steps” for the transformed system. The following are “five tips for an easy implementation.”

1. The equipment you have is in “tip top” shape, the PCs that staff use is accessible and, if shared, have sign-on IDs for all staff who share the equipment.
2. Key staff are selected and ready (Delegated Administrators / Staff Development Coordinators / STARS Coordinators / Implementation Coordinators / Security Coordinators).
3. All staff have completed the Web-based training that has been developed specifically for the Transformation.
4. All staff have the ability to access the “tool set” that has been developed for the implementation – specifically, the **Transformation Job Aid**.
5. All staff are aware of the post-implementation resources available to help in case they need it – the **Help Desk** and the **Application Help Team**.

