

Memo

To: Local District and Voluntary Agency Implementation Coordinators
From: CONNECTIONS Communication Team
Date: 3/8/2002
Re: Invitation to Participate in CONNECTIONS Build 15 User Acceptance Testing

This memo is to invite experienced CONNECTIONS users to participate in user acceptance testing for CONNECTIONS Build 15. From March 25th through April 19th, the testing lab on the 15th floor at 40 North Pearl St., in Albany will be open for up to 12 testers per day with both 3.51 and 2000 machines available.

With the implementation of Build 15, there will be significant changes in the way tasks are performed, especially by FAD workers. The Foster and Adoptive Record Summary presents new methods of completing home studies and re-certifications for existing homes. The new windows for maintaining home demographics will enable users to make changes once, while affecting changes to numerous screens. In addition to the specific changes for FAD workers, there are changes to Person/Address Search and Person Merge/Split procedures. New race and ethnicity codes, that will be used to meet federal mandates are also included in this Build.

A copy of the CONNECTIONS database that is approximately 6 weeks old is used for testing. Using this copy of the database, testers will be able to test the tasks they perform in their jobs as well as work on standard test plans.

It is important that participants in user acceptance testing take this opportunity to perform their daily CONNECTIONS tasks, without test plans if possible, to ensure that their business functions will not be compromised or impeded by the changes in Build 15. Testers who wish to use pre-designed test plans should review the attached list of items, contained in Build 15, and identify those areas they would like to test. A copy of applicable test plans will be sent to the testers so they can familiarize themselves, prior to testing, with the types of exercises they can perform in the lab. CONNECTIONS Project staff will be available each day to provide assistance.

To participate in the Build 15 testing please contact Maureen Wight by e-mail or by telephone; (518) 402-3074. You will need to tell her the names of the testers, the dates they wish to use the lab, whether they prefer a 3.51 or a 2000 machine and which Build 15 items they would like to test. As in the past, travel expenses will be reimbursed at the State approved rates. We look forward to having CONNECTIONS users assist us in testing Build 15 components.