CONNECTIONS Build Bulletin

Upcoming CONNECTIONS Build:
Sex Trafficking Screening Window and
State Education Data Window

The next build to the CONNECTIONS application is anticipated in early December and will include a new Sex Trafficking Screening window and a new data feed from the State Education Department (SED).

1) The **Sex Trafficking Screening** window is the first of several changes that will be made to CONNECTIONS in response to the Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act (P.L. 113.183). The act introduces new policies and procedures for identifying, documenting, and determining appropriate services for children and youth who are sex trafficking victims or are at risk of sex trafficking. It also introduces the standard for reasonable and prudent parenting. The Sex Trafficking Screening window will be used to document when and what type of screening (Quick Assessment or Comprehensive Assessment) was completed regarding specific children.

The initial screening window will be required for all children in receipt of preventive, foster care, or child protective services, and will be accessible from any Investigation (INV), Family Assessment Response (FAR), or Family Services Stage (FSS stage with types CWS, CCR, and ADVPO only).

The remaining changes related to this legislation will be implemented into CONNECTIONS during the first half of 2016.

2) The **State Education Data** window will provide a transfer of educational information from the New York State Education Department (NYSED) to CONNECTIONS for children who are currently in foster care. It will be available in the Education window of the FSS to workers who have a role in the case or access to the workload of someone else who does. The SED Data Feed will convey past education information, including grade level, school enrollment, standardized testing scores, and other basic educational information. The Education window within the FSS will continue to be where caseworkers and support staff enter information concerning a child's current educational status and plans.

More information, including a detailed implementation schedule as well as supporting documentation, will be made available soon.

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CONNECTIONS