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 | INFORMATIONAL LETTER |
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TRANSMITTAL: 96 INF-9

TO: Commissioners of
 Social Services
 Executive Directors of
 Voluntary Agencies

DIVISION: Services and
 Community
 Development

DATE: February 22, 1996

SUBJECT: "Plug into CONNECTIONS"
 Teleconference
 on March 29, 1996, 9:30-11:30 AM

SUGGESTED

DISTRIBUTION: Directors of Services
 SACWIS Liaisons
 Staff Development Systems Coordinators
 Systems Coordinators
 Child Welfare Staff

CONTACT PERSON: Carol Van Kloberg, SCD (518) 432-2911
 Janice Daley, HRD (518) 486-6400
 David McGann, HRD (518) 473-8380

ATTACHMENTS: List of Teleconference Downlink Sites with Addresses
 (Not Available On-Line)

FILING REFERENCES

Previous ADMs/INFs	Releases Cancelled	Dept. Regs.	Soc. Serv. Law & Other Legal Ref.	Manual Ref.	Misc. Ref.
94 INF-20			Section 474		94 LCM-114
94 INF-25			(a)(3)(c)		
95 INF-21			of the		
95 INF-42			Social		
96 INF-7			Security Act;		
			45 CFR 1355.22 (a)		

Purpose

The Division of Services and Community Development (SCD), in collaboration with the Division of System Support and Information Services (SSIS) and the Office of Human Resources Development (OHRD), will present a teleconference on Friday, March 29, 1996 entitled "Plug into CONNECTIONS". The teleconference will provide local districts and voluntary agencies detailed information regarding installation of the CONNECTIONS hardware, and will provide answers to questions about preparation of the install sites. At this time the CONNECTIONS contractor will be introduced and specific information regarding the implementation plan will be discussed. Districts and agencies will be provided with a site prep "Action Plan" to help them as they begin local preparations for the installation of equipment by the contractor for the CONNECTIONS project. Availability of the federal enhanced funding through September 30, 1996, will require strict adherence to established schedules.

Teleconference Topics

The teleconference will provide the audience an updated status of the implementation schedule, installation rollout, and detail the progress made by the Child Welfare On-Line Workgroup.

A Technical Session will introduce the Contractor selected for the CONNECTIONS implementation, discuss site preparation and readiness, address the hardware architecture to be installed by the Contractor and discuss installation issues.

Local districts and Voluntaries should be using the "scalable site model" that has been provided, which will allow them to determine electrical requirements for the new equipment. This electrical requirements evaluation and any needed modifications should begin now. The panelists will provide recommendations for local "Next Steps" and "Action Plans". The implementation schedule will be presented with an emphasis on critical timeframes.

A panel of State, local district and voluntary agency representatives will be available to answer audience call-in questions during the remaining time of the teleconference.

There will be downlink sites throughout New York State which should be convenient for most districts and voluntary agencies. The program is scheduled for 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 AM. A list of downlink sites and addresses is attached.

A formal teleconference announcement is forthcoming. If you have any questions on the teleconference topic, please refer them to

Carol Van Kloberg
Director
Bureau of Services Information Systems
New York State Department of Social Services
40 North Pearl Street
Albany NY 12243
(518) 432-2911
1 800 342-3727

If you have any questions regarding registration or the broadcast sites, please refer them to David McGann at (518) 473-8380 (ID AW2950) or Janice Daley at (518) 486-6400 (ID 38a335).

George A. Mitchell III
Deputy Commissioner
System Support and
Information Services

Rose M. Pandozy
Deputy Commissioner
Division of Services and
Community Development