WDTIP Bulletin

Date: March 31, 2000

Project Updates

The Welfare Data Tracking Implementation Project (WDTIP) Team has prepared for User Acceptance Testing (UAT). UAT is a process designed to test the system from the user's perspective and provides users with an opportunity to verify that the system meets the business requirements defined in the Project's Joint Requirements Planning (JRP) and Joint Application Design (JAD) sessions. The Project has developed a UAT Plan and schedule that will provide a representative group of system users and other project stakeholders with the opportunity to test system functionality, navigation and ease of use before the system is finalized and rolled out to counties on June 5, 2000.

The WDTIP Application Team has completed system performance testing and will support the Implementation Team during UAT. In the coming weeks, the Application Team will begin preparing the WDTIP system production environment and testing the extraction loads from Sutter and Glenn counties. The ISAWS consortium will create the test extractions loads for Sutter and Glenn counties. Testing the loads demonstrates how effectively the data from source systems loads into the WDTIP database and also tests the system's time clock calculation logic.

WDTIP User Acceptance Testing

UAT has been scheduled March 28th-30th and the weeks of April 10th and 17th, 2000. Team members volunteered from each of the eight different source systems that will provide WDTIP with time-on-aid information. The UAT Team members represent your county/consortium in the testing and overall user acceptance of the WDTIP system and will also be testing the WDTIP system training curriculum. During the week of March 28th, the UAT Team members completed the manual process of validating the accuracy and completeness of the test scripts and received WDTIP system training and on April 10th will meet to begin on-line UAT activities. If you have questions about WDTIP UAT activities, please contact Gloria Takagishi at (916) 229-3089. The representative counties are provided in the table on the following page.

Organization
Merced County Human Services Agency
Riverside County Department of Public Social Services
San Bernardino County Department of Public Social Services
Stanislaus County Community Services Agency
San Joaquin County Human Services Agency
Los Angeles County Department of Public Social Services
Ventura County Public Social Services Agency
Yolo County Department of Social Services
California Department of Social Services

WDTIP System Training

The Project will be providing Train the Trainer sessions beginning May 3, 2000. The Train the Trainer approach to system training allows the counties to customize their training schedule and lesson plans to fit their individual needs. The specifics of the WDTIP system training schedule have been determined and county contacts have been notified of the details regarding the WDTIP system training content, dates, times and locations. The county training dates are provided in the table below. If you have specific questions regarding your county's training schedule, please contact Lorrie Taylor at (916) 229-3380.

County	Training Date	County	Training Date
Del Norte	5/3/00	Mendocino	5/9/00
Modoc	5/3/00	Sierra	5/9/00
Plumas	5/3/00	Sonoma	5/9/00
Shasta	5/3/00	Alpine	5/9/00
Siskiyou	5/3/00	Yolo	5/9/00
Tehama	5/3/00	Butte	5/11/00
Trinity	5/4/00	Placer	5/11/00
Humboldt	5/4/00	Sutter	5/11/00
Lassen	5/4/00	Yuba	5/11/00
Sacramento	5/8/00	Glenn	5/11/00
Colusa	5/9/00	Mono	5/11/00
El Dorado	5/9/00	San Francisco	5/11/00
Marin	5/9/00	Solano	5/11/00
Napa	5/9/00	Stanislaus	5/16/00
Nevada	5/9/00	Calaveras	5/16/00
Amador	5/9/00	Madera	5/16/00
Lake	5/9/00	Fresno	5/16/00

County	Training Date	County	Training Date
San Mateo	5/16/00	Kern	5/24/00
Santa Cruz	5/16/00	Santa Barbara	5/24/00
Tuolumne	5/17/00	Tulare	5/25/00
San Benito	5/17/00	San Luis Obispo	5/25/00
Monterey	5/17/00	Inyo	5/25/00
Mariposa	5/17/00	Ventura	5/25/00
Merced	5/17/00	San Bernardino	5/31/00
San Joaquin	5/18/00	San Diego	5/31/00
Alameda	5/18/00	Los Angeles	5/31/00
Contra Costa	5/18/00	Orange	6/01/00
Santa Clara	5/18/00	Riverside	6/01/00
Kings	5/24/00	Imperial	6/01/00

WDTIP System Conversion

The WDTIP system will collect time-on-aid information that is required to accurately calculate the Welfare to Work 18/24-month, CalWORKs 60-month, and TANF 60-month time clocks, display this information in a 20-screen system and provide counties with four monthly system report files. To do this, the system must capture time-on-aid information from county and consortia systems. We have received inquiries regarding the conversion of existing data and the on-going approach to obtaining this data. The May 2000 publication of the Bulletin will follow-up with pertinent details regarding WDTIP system conversion and the on-going file loads.

WDTIP System Updates

This month's *System Update* section of the Bulletin is written specifically to provide information for those who will be developing the standard file layout for the conversion and daily extract files.

- **Adult/Child Participation Determination**
  The system's time clock calculation logic counts months on time clocks depending upon whether a participant is aided as an adult or a child. The participation type code is a required field for all data received directly from the counties and will be used to determine participation as an adult or child for daily extract files. However, for data provided by the SAWS Information System (SIS) before conversion occurs, JRP and JAD participants agreed that person number would be the most accurate method to determine participation as an adult or child. The WDTIP Team has found that some data in the current SIS database does not have a person number included (it is blank). When a person number is not present the system will identify if an individual participated in a program as an adult or as a child by using date of

birth. Anyone age 18 or greater will be designated "aided as an adult." This determination will only be made until each county is converted. Once the system receives the data directly from each county, this logic will no longer be needed.

- ***Change from AFDC to CalWORKs***

  On December 31, 1997 the program titled Aid to Families with Dependant Children (AFDC), represented by Program Type Code 02 in WDTIP, ended and was followed by the CalWORKs program, represented by Program Type Code 04 in WDTIP, which was instituted on January 1, 1998. In order for the WDTIP system to accurately calculate the time clock for all participants, it is important that this change in program type is sent to WDTIP by all of the counties/consortia. If this program type is not changed, the CalWORKs 60-month and Welfare to Work 18/24-months clocks will not tick for those months (because the AFDC program, which preceded CalWORKs, did not impact these clocks). Additionally, the WDTIP system will reject any records with an AFDC program type code that has an effective date after December 31, 1997.

  Even though logic to accurately reflect this change in program is in the WDTIP system, this logic cannot account for all scenarios. For example, if WDTIP receives an AFDC program record which starts before 12/31/97 and never receives an indication that this program has ended or has been changed, the TANF time clocks will continue to be calculated each month (and the CalWORKs 60-month and Welfare to Work 18/24 month clock will never be updated). To prevent this scenario from occurring, the source systems will need to end all AFDC program participation records no later than December 31, 1997 or change them to CalWORKs records as of January 1, 1998.

- ***Homeless Assistance in WDTIP***

  If the counties/consortia send homeless assistance information to WDTIP, it is important that they provide a range of dates to indicate the assistance. This range is important because Homeless Assistance payments are stored in the program participation table in WDTIP and adhere to the business logic to load that table. This logic is designed to delete records where the start date and end date are equal or the end date is an earlier date than the start date. For this reason, even though a specific payment may have occurred on a specific day, if the transactions sent have start and end dates that are equal, the record will be deleted from the database. Hence, the source systems should never send a Homeless Assistance record with the same start and end dates.

Refer to the ***External Developer's Guide*** at the Project's website if you would like more detailed information about how data is loaded into the WDTIP system. Please contact the Project's Development Lead, Anna Leano at (916) 229-3374 if

you have any questions/comments/suggestions regarding the information in the System Update section of the Bulletin.

Communications

The WDTIP website address is **www.wdtip.cahwnet.gov** and is updated monthly. If you prefer to contact our office by phone, we are available from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. The WDTIP toll-free number is **(877) 365-7378**. Our fax number is (916) 229-4487. WDTIP staff phone numbers and e-mail addresses are posted on the WDTIP website in the *Contact* section.

Other

If you have ideas for functional items you would like to see included in the monthly WDTIP Bulletin, please contact Lorrie Taylor at (916) 229-3380 or by e-mail at Ltaylor1@hwdcsaws.cahwnet.gov.