

CWDA INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY HIGHLIGHTS

February/March 2009

CMIPS II update

- **New Project Director** – Effective January 30, 2009, Gerald Yee was appointed CMIPS II Project Director, replacing George Fisher who is now the Project Director for the Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) Project. Gerald has over 30 years of experience at the Employment Development Department (EDD). He has served as project manager over several large automation projects at EDD, most recently for the Automated Collection Enhancement System (ACES) Project. Gerald's broad knowledge, diverse experience and leadership skills will assist CMIPS II in meeting the challenges and opportunities of today and tomorrow as they manage and implement a new automated system for county customers. Gerald's strong working relationships with other departments, control agencies and external entities will also help in successfully achieving the project's goals.
- **Project Schedule** – Several factors have resulted in the need to extend the project pilot rollout schedule for at least 90 days. The Project and the vendor (EDS) plan to complete a schedule analysis by the end of March. Counties will be informed of impact on their implementation schedules, and consulted regarding implementation allocations.
- **Implementation** – The State Implementation Team has completed the Executive Briefings for Pilot and Groups 1, 2, and 4. The Implementation Team will begin to deliver Group 3 Executive Briefings in early March. In addition, Pilot and most of the Group 1, 2, and 4 counties have completed their Planning and Organization Meetings. The outcome of all of the meetings to-date has been very positive, and the CMIPS II Implementation Team greatly appreciates the strong interest, support and participation that each county has provided. Moving forward from the Executive Briefings, the County CMIPS II Project Managers have played a pivotal role in organizing their respective Planning and Organization Meetings. The Implementation team is currently in the process of preparing for training the counties on the use of project prepared Data Readiness reports, and expects to be able to start delivery of these reports to the counties in late March or Early April. The CMIPS II Project thanks you for all your efforts, and looks forward to working together for successful CMIPS II implementation.
- **System Design** – General System Design (GSD) Sessions will continue through the first week of March. All sessions have been well attended by county staff. Detailed System Design (DSD) sessions will be starting up over the next few weeks, and that schedule should be available shortly. Because of the need for continuity of participants between GSD and DSD, the project is not able to open news slots for DSD participants. The CMIPS II Project is very appreciative of participating County staff, and thank you for your continued support of design efforts. Please contact the project office if you have questions about the design process.
- **Interfaces** – CMIPS II Project Office is continuing General System Design with Interface Partners for Interfaces between systems. Interface related Detailed System Design sessions are being scheduled for the coming weeks.

CMIPS II (Continued)

- **CMIPS II Rapid Response Team (RRT)** – CWDA and CDSS have formed a Rapid Response Team, which will meet weekly via conference call to discuss program policy issues impacting CMIPS II development. The team is comprised of county program experts representing a broad spectrum and from all regions, as well as appropriate OSI Project team members. The first meeting will occur on March 4, 2009. Regular reports will be made to the CWDA Long Term Care and Adult Services Committees on the group's efforts.
- **CCAT** – The CMIPS II County Advisory Team (CCAT) was formed to provide the CMIPS II project with county input on policy and implementation issues. With the recent formation of the CMIPS II RRT, CWDA, CDSS, and the Project staff are discussing the future role of CCAT.

For more information contact– cmips2info@osi.ca.gov

Gerald Yee at OSI (916) 229-0881, Gerald.Yee@osi.ca.gov
Pam Hughes at CDSS (916) 229-3291, Pamela.Hughes@dss.ca.gov

Project website: <http://www.cmips2project.ca.gov/>

Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) Transition Update

- County Transition – The state and ACS State & Local Solutions, Inc. (ACS) will complete County Transition Workshops for Group 3 counties in February 2009. Initial contacts are being made with the final group of counties (Group 4) and County Transition Workshops are being scheduled.
- Retailer Conversion – The initial outreach effort for California retailers was completed a couple of months ago and retailers continue to return signed retailer agreements to ACS. The agreements allow retailers to continue to service EBT cardholders after cutover in September 2009. As of February 11, 2009, approximately 31 percent of EBT-only retailers have sent signed agreements to ACS. A follow-up outreach in January targeted those retailers who have not yet submitted signed agreements. An ACS telephone bank is currently placing calls to those retailers. In March 2009, ACS will begin to schedule visits to update point-of-sale equipment and provide as-needed training to those retailers who have signed their agreements.
- Interface Testing – Conducted LEADER and ISAWS consortia batch and host-to-host interface testing and initiated testing with the CalWIN consortium.
- Milestones – Key EBT transition milestone dates for county/consortia activities are as follows:
 - February 2009 – Initiate transition activities in Group 3 counties
 - February 2009 – Complete CalWIN interface testing
 - February 2009 – Initiate C-IV interface testing
 - March 2009 – Initiate transition activities in Group 4 counties
 - June 2009 – Conduct training for county trainers
 - September 19-20, 2009 – Overnight cutover of EBT services to ACS

For more information contact Dave Swift at 916-263-3621 or Dave.Swift@osi.ca.gov

Project website: <http://www.ebtproject.ca.gov/>

SFIS Update

- On January 6, 2009, the Department of General Services issued an Intent to Award to EDS, concluding the SFIS procurement process.

For more information, contact Lori Starnes at 916-263-7524 or Lori.Starnes@dss.ca.gov.

Project website: <http://www.sfis.ca.gov/>

SAVE the DATE

ISM 2009

August 30 through September 2

**Marriott on the Magnificent Mile
Chicago, IL**

Despite the reeling economy, the 2009 ISM conference will proceed as planned. It is in these times of rising caseloads and diminishing operating budgets that a conference like ISM is needed the most. At ISM you can network with your peers from across the country to share information on the most efficient and cost effective methods to achieve your objectives through the use of IT.

Keeping with the tenor of the times – a new administration in Washington, DC and the poor economy – and

playing on one of the nicknames for Chicago, the theme for ISM 2009 is
"Winds of Change: Smart Choices for Tough Times."

Because of the change of administration in Washington, DC, ISM 2009 will feature numerous sessions presented by federal agencies, including FNS, CMS, Child Support, and Child Welfare, which will enable you to stay abreast of policy and procedural changes occurring in their programs which directly affect your operations. The very latest direction coming out of the Stimulus Bill will be shared and debated.

ISM 2009 will provide the usual mix of dynamic plenary speakers and in-depth breakout sessions which will focus on the business drivers, innovative solutions, advances in technology, and the aforementioned changes occurring in the federal funding agencies.

Budgets are tight and travel may be restricted, but ISM has been acknowledged as the best IT conference for human services professionals in the country, and is the one conference that you cannot afford to miss.

More information on the conference registration and hotel reservations will be available soon on www.aphsa-ism.org.

CMIPS Update

Direct Deposit for IHSS Providers

- ○ IHSS Provider Direct Deposit (PDD) continues to be extremely popular. To date 100,120 IHSS providers are participating in PDD and EDS has responded to calls from 81,136 IHSS providers.
- ○ The PDD outreach letter and enrollment form are presently available in English, Spanish, Armenian, Cantonese, Russian, Vietnamese, Mandarin, Tagalog, Korean, Farsi and Cambodian and are posted to the CDSS website.
- Other Projects
 - ○ CDSS staff continues to work with OSI and our vendor, EDS in the developmental phase of CMIPS II.

For more information contact Nancy Wuorio at 916-229-4007 or by email at Nancy.Wuorio@dss.ca.gov.

CWS/Web Project

- The Project is analyzing the recently delivered draft Foster Care Eligibility Determination (FCED) Report. The final version of the FCED Report is scheduled to be delivered on February 27, 2009. A briefing to Stakeholders on the FCED study results is expected to be held in March 2009.
- The Federally required As Needed APDU has been completed and is currently under review by CDSS. It is scheduled to be sent to the ACF in March 2009. A copy will be posted on the Project website.
- The Project Team conducted a review of the Service & Support portions of Section IV and Section VI of the Request for Proposal (RFP) using Kovair, an Internet based global lifecycle tool. Review participants included State Staff from the Office of Systems Integration (OSI), as well as Department of Technology Services (DTS).
- The Project is in process of determining schedule updates due to the 10% (two days per month) furlough of State Staff, and the delay in the delivery of the FCED Study Report.
- The Project is recruiting for six additional County Consultants to begin in early 2009/10. Interested county staff should contact Meg Sheldon (msheldon@cwda.org) or Tom Burke (tom.burke@dss.ca.gov) for more information and an application form.

For more information contact John Lane at John.Lane@OSI.ca.gov or Debbie Campora at Debbie.Campora@OSI.ca.gov

CWS/Web Project Website: <http://www.hwcws.cahwnet.gov/newsystem/>

RADEP Phase II Lite (E2Lite) Update

- A Performance Measurement County (PMC) meeting was held on January 28, 2009. Items of discussion included a RADEP and E2Lite update. The next PMC meeting is scheduled for March 25, 2009.
- Preliminary Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2008 data continues to be released to the counties.
- E2L changes necessary, based on the release of the final federal regulations, including the approved work verification plan, have been made. These changes were effective October 1, 2008 (for FFY 2009). Counties have received a copy of the draft ACL that transmits these changes. This ACL should be released in the very near future.

For more information, please contact Karen Kennedy at (916) 928-2554 or Karen.Kennedy@dss.ca.gov.

C-IV Update

Maintenance and Operations

- ▶ Release 9.02 (February 2009) went live on Monday, February 23, 2009. Thirty-seven (37) enhancements were included in this release, including:
 - SCR 33666 ACL 08-30 Disaster Food Stamp Identifier Updates
 - SCR 33157 ACL 08-29 Food Stamp Recertification Updates
 - SCR 28329 Child Care Former Recipient Report
 - SCR 29182 Add PIN Unlock to EBT Host to Host
- ▶ Release 9.03 (March 2009) is scheduled to be released on March 23, 2009. Forty-four (44) enhancements are currently planned for this release, including:
 - SCR 34596 Determine Work Eligible Individuals for WPR Reporting
 - SCR 31317 Updates to FNS 209 Report

C-IV Update – Maintenance and Operations (Continued)

- ▶ Continue work on enhancements for C4Yourself. These enhancements include:
 - Expand existing capability for Food Stamps to allow applicants to check their benefits and provide the ability to perform recertification updates online
 - Allow applicant to submit application for CalWORKs
 - Allow applicants to submit applications for Medi-Cal, CMSP online, as well as to check their benefits and perform redeterminations online
- ▶ Continue meetings to finalize technical specification for the CMIPS II interface
- ▶ Continue certification testing for EBT Vendor change to ACS

ISAWS Migration Preparation (see schedule on the following page)

- ▶ Received Consortium Approval for the following Migration Deliverables:
 - Final Deliverable 59 - Equipment and Software Acquisition Plan Update #8
 - Final Deliverable 62 - Migration Work Plan Update #17
 - Final Deliverable IMP007 - Site Preparation and Installation Plan - Kern County
 - Final Deliverable IMP010 - Site Preparation and Installation Plan - Mono County
 - Final Deliverable IMP011 - Site Preparation and Installation Plan - Glenn County
 - Final Deliverable IMP012 - Site Preparation and Installation Plan - Napa County
 - Final Deliverable IMP013 - Site Preparation and Installation Plan - Marin County
 - Final Deliverable IMP014 - Site Preparation and Installation Plan - El Dorado County
 - Final Deliverable IMP015 - Site Preparation and Installation Plan - Lake County
 - Final Deliverable IMP016 - Site Preparation and Installation Plan - Mendocino County
 - Final Deliverable IMP076 - Work Plan (Monthly Update #3)
- ▶ Continue Application Development activities, including:
 - Continue to support Implementation Team in preparing for county go-live readiness
 - Continue to support Migration System Test Team with testing for replicated and new batch interfaces
- ▶ Continue System Test Activities, including:

- Completed CMSP NOA script validation
- Continued with batch replication testing
- ▶ Continue Technical Architecture activities, including:
 - Conducted SOSP creation meeting for Humboldt, Butte, Shasta, and Del Norte Counties
 - Met with Mono, San Benito, and Monterey counties to review Hardware needs
- ▶ Continue Conversion activities, including:
 - Facilitated Mock Conversion Workgroup Discussion with ISAWS. Discussed Environment availability for Mock Conversion
 - Continued to maintain Conversion Data Dictionary (CDD) and functionality related to data mapping
 - Continued to work on Data Cleansing requests
 - Executed ISAWS Data Validation Pilot (Kern, Imperial & Colusa) on February 19, 2009
- ▶ Continued Implementation Management activities, including:
 - Completed Drafts of Implementation Work Products list, County Readiness Assessment, Implementation Readiness Checklist, and County Activities by month
 - Finalized plan to gather Users, Locations and Roles from each County
 - Conducted San Benito Implementation Point of Contact Kick-off
- ▶ Continued Change Management activities, including:
 - Continued to confirm and prepare for Wave 1 Change Management Kick-off Meetings
 - Conducted a follow-up Process and Role Gap Analysis Pilot conference call with Kern County
 - Continued to develop C-IV To-Be Business Processes
 - Conducted a Change Management Planning Conference Call with Imperial County
 - Conducted a Change Management Planning Conference Call with San Benito County

C-IV Update – ISAWS Migration Preparation (Continued)

- ▶ Continued Training activities, including:
 - Continued Training facilities site exploration and evaluations
 - Continued Imaging Training information fact gathering
 - Commenced planning County Training site mitigation and scheduling with Site Prep Team

For more information contact John Boule at 916-851-3226 or boulej@c-iv.org

Project Website: <http://www.c-iv.org/>

ISAWS Migration Project Overview

Task Name	2007				2008												2009												2010					
	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
General System Design	█																																	
Detailed System Design	█				█																													
Build					█												█																	
System Test	█				█												█																	
User Acceptance Test																	█																	
Development Data Center Prep & Install	█				█																													
Production Data Center Prep & Install																	█																	
Overall Conversion Plan	█				█																													
Conversion Preparation					█												█																	
Conversion Dry Runs																	█																	
Develop Implementation Plan																	█																	
Prepare Implementation Support Plan																	█																	
Execute Implementation Plan																	█												█					
Local Site Installation																	█												█					
Training Preparation																	█																	
Training Delivery – Wave 1																	█																	
Training Delivery – Wave 2																													█					
Training Delivery – Wave 3																													█					
Deployment/Implementation Support - Wave 1																													█					
Deployment/Implementation Support - Wave 2																													█					
Deployment/Implementation Support - Wave 3																													█					
Final Migration Acceptance																																		

California Child Support Automation System (CCSAS) Project Update

- In November 2008, DCSS successfully transitioned Los Angeles County onto the Child Support Enforcement (CSE) System. This final transition made CSE a truly state-wide system. In December 2008, DCSS received federal certification for CCSAS (which is comprised of CSE and the State Disbursement Unit).
- Furlough Update: The Department of Child Support Services (DCSS) will be closed the 1st and 3rd Friday of each month due to the Governor's Executive Order S-16-08. However, Business Partner staff will be working so all IV-A interface files will run as scheduled.

For more information contact Garrick Hanson at 916- 464-5088 or garrick.hanson@dcss.ca.gov

Project Website: <http://www.ftb.ca.gov/individuals/ccsas/index.shtml>

RADEP I (Replacement for the Q5i Quality Control System) Update

- Discussions continue with Food and Nutrition Service on SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) on implementation of Face-to-Face Waivers for allotments less than \$100.

For more information, please contact Trish Rodriguez at 916-928-2734 or Trish.Rodriguez@dss.ca.gov.

ISAWS Update

- Be Vu Lawsuit (MCR 2389) – Addresses the mandated change in ACL 07-12 to provide Food Stamp Program and certain CalWORKs Notices of Action (NOAs) in the 13 languages identified by CDSS. ISAWS, with assistance from CDSS-Languages, will implement approximately 3,000 translated NOAs in addition to the QR7 and Statement of Facts. The MCR is tentatively scheduled for implementation February 28, 2009.
- Conversion Batch (MCR 2411) – Addresses the need for ISAWS to complete their end-of-month batch processes earlier in the month due to the C-IV migration cutover strategy. The MCR will be completed and ready for C-IV Mock Conversion activities by February 28, 2009.
- The 2009 Federal Poverty Level (FPL) COLA is tentatively scheduled to be implemented on February 28, 2009. The Mass Change is scheduled to be executed during the first weekend in March 2009.
- Conversion related efforts include working with the C-IV Project on:
 - o Build/Data Mapping Sessions (twice per week)
 - o Weekly Conversion Workgroup Meetings
 - o Site Preparation Meeting with the Counties
 - o Weekly Managers Meeting
 - o Conversion work efforts in the current workload:
 - Legacy Data Solution (MCR 2405) – C-IV requested that the ISAWS and WTW applications be maintained with inquiry-only access after conversion to the C-IV system. Currently in the Design phase
 - Mock Conversion (MCR 2412) – Work effort will allow for mock conversions to occur prior to each wave's cutover to the C-IV system.
 - Cutover Activities (MCR 2415) – Work effort will address all cutover activities needed to be conducted by the ISAWS Project in order to complete cutover for each county
 - WTW PDF NOAs (MCR 2421) – Work effort will allow for WTW NOAs dated prior to April 2005 to be converted to a PDF format in order to be accessible by ISAWS Counties as part of the WTW Legacy Data Solution

For more information contact Joe Hogan at 916-255-0494 or joe.hogan@osi.ca.gov

Project Website: <http://www.isawsconsortium.org/>

Welfare Data Tracking Implementation Project (WDTIP) Update

- WDTIP staffs continue to work with CalWIN consortium to implement CR4499 and CR 2197. The CR4499 is to synchronize the Time-on-Aid information between CalWIN and WDTIP system. Phase I was implemented for three counties (Fresno, San Diego and San Mateo) in January 2009. Phase II, which includes remaining 15 counties, will be implemented in February 2009. Upon completion of CR2197, the Child Support Reimbursement transactions will be automatically sent to WDTIP instead of manually entering by the county staff.

For more information please contact Grace Chen at 916-263-3363 or Grace.Chen@osi.ca.gov.

Project Website: www.wdtip.ca.gov

CalWIN Update

- CalWIN Release 20 – April 2009
 - Activities continue in preparation of CalWIN Release 20. Highlights of the Release include:
 - Case coverage and task based roles solution – Currently the Worker user type allows workers to edit any case that is granted through their caseload access rights, however they may only authorize programs on cases that are directly assigned to them. Additionally, Workers can not view and resolve Alerts generated for other caseloads or other worker's appointments.
 - A new user type, Duty Worker, has been designed to allow workers with this role to perform the case coverage or task based actions.
 - The Duty worker solution was designed to provide the Counties with the requested functionality while utilizing a simple approach that builds upon the existing CalWIN role based concept that the Counties are already familiar with. In addition to case coverage, this change also assists the Counties with their workforce balancing initiatives such as call centers and task-based operating models.
- CalWIN Key Projects
 - Be Vu Phase II – CalWIN is currently in preparation to expand supported languages to include eight additional languages. The addition of these languages, in support of the Be Vu settlement which includes Cushite, Formosan, Japanese, Mien, Punjabi, Portuguese, Syriac, and Ukrainian, will increase the total number of CalWIN supported languages to 22.
 - Client Correspondence Enhancement phase II – In efforts to enhance the CalWIN Client Correspondence Maintenance process, this project will replace the current Client Correspondence Maintenance windows with a web based application. The new application will further streamline the existing processes and allow counties control in correspondence maintenance activities. Once implemented, counties and the consortium will be able to add or update correspondence and control when it should be promoted.
 - EBT Transition – CalWIN is currently conducting the Eligibility System Certification testing with the new California EBT vendor (ACS). The CalWIN interface testing will verify successful network connectivity, host to host and batch processing. In addition to the interface validation, testing will include processing through the PIN pad and POS devices, embossing with the new EBT card printer, and utilization of EPPIC web based admin terminal functionality. Successful testing with the new EBT vendor will ensure a seamless transition, which is scheduled for a statewide cutover on September 20, 2009.
 - County Server Refresh – The CalWIN County Server Refresh project has been completed successfully. The final portion of the installations process was completed in January with the server cutovers for all 18 Counties.

For more information contact Bob Hendricks at 916-608-3457 or Bob.Hendricks@calwin.org

Project Website: <http://www.calwin.org/>

MEDS Update

- Upcoming DRA Citizenship Verification Changes – The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) is continuing work on a series of major changes over the next four to five months to support DRA citizenship verification requirements. Upcoming changes include: 1) identifying individuals who are either temporarily or permanently exempt from citizenship verification requirements; 2) identifying individuals whose citizenship verification information is not required to be reported to MEDS but can instead be found in a county's cash assistance case folder; 3) identifying and providing county alerts/reports for new applicants and existing beneficiaries who have been reported as full scope eligible but supporting citizenship verification status information has not yet been reported to MEDS; 4) updating Statewide Client Index transactions to include citizenship verification status information for county use in processing new applications; 5) automatic checking for citizenship verification status changes on new applicants and SSN changes; and 6) production of DRA impact/monitoring reports for MCED. We have been looking at the proposed DRA citizenship verification changes in the just passed SCHIP legislation which would allow us to automatically verify citizenship as a part of the SSN verification process. We will be assessing how soon the new legislation changes can be incorporated into existing DRA changes already underway to switch from semi-annual SSN verification to daily SSN verification (with associated federal DRA data requests) as new clients or SSN updates are reported to MEDS.
- Privacy and Security Reviews
 - The Department of Health Care Services entered into a data sharing agreement with the SSA (known as the 1137 Agreement). The agreement became effective July 1, 2007, thus limiting access to SSA data to only authorized employees who need it to perform their official duties. The agreement contains security procedures relating to protecting the privacy of SSA Personally Identifiable Information (PII) and requires the Department to perform oversight of the SSA data being accessed by multiple users throughout the state who are agents and contractors of the Department.
 - To date, DHCS staff has successfully completed 25 County Privacy and Security Reviews. Due to budgetary delays and constraints, some county reviews were postponed. All affected counties were notified and rescheduled. In an effort to complete the current review cycle by the end of September 2009 as planned, DHCS did send out two concurrent review teams. Current budgetary limitations have placed additional strain on DHCS' ability to conduct these reviews. Therefore, additional modification may be necessary to the review schedule. If it becomes necessary, each county will be contacted individually and a mitigation strategy will be negotiated at that time.
 - Each of the completed reviews has been successful in helping the counties to identify potential privacy and security risks as well as providing counties with valuable feedback on what they are doing well. DHCS has received encouraging feedback from each county and the Review Team expects to continue each future review with the same positive.
 - Counties should contact or the DHCS Review Team at SSA.Security@dhcs.ca.gov with any questions, comments or concerns. Meg Sheldon at CWDA (msheldon@cwda.org or 916-443-1749) is also available to discuss any questions counties have about the county agreement.

For information contact John Zapata (916-552-6451 or JZapata@dhcs.ca.gov) or Cheryl Dobbins (916-440-7296 or Cheryl.Dobbins@dhcs.ca.gov)

CWS/CMS Update

- New Customer Relations Manager – The CWS/CMS Project welcomes Chris Silvey as the Manager of the Customer Relations Section. Chris comes to us from the successful Child Support Automation effort.
- Application Release 6.2 – This application change was released November 1, 2008, providing the capability for counties to migrate to the Windows XP operating system. The Project is preparing a lessons learned document that addresses these issues, as well as steps to improve communication with customers in the future.
- Business Objects Upgrade – This effort will upgrade the current outdated version of Business Objects to the latest version. The hardware/software upgrade necessary to move to the Business Objects XI Release 3 are underway, with an 11-pilot currently running. Counties are beginning to receive the new software. Training is being provided via the CAD User Groups. The versions are predominantly the same, except the desktop version has increased reporting capability necessary to create/edit some of the more complex reports. Fortunately the Project has been able to increase the initial desktop allotment from 217, ensuring counties will keep at least the number of users they have presently. In addition, all counties will receive access to the web versions, though there are some functional limitations that may not allow all necessary reports to be edited. The “older” version of Business Objects currently in use will remain operational through the 6.3 application release, scheduled for November 6, 2009.
- Server Based Computing – This initiative greatly enhances the access to CWS/CMS for workers in the field. Statewide rollout is nearly complete. This solution is currently limited to 1,500 users total (750 concurrently). A description of this service has been posted to the CWS/CMS website. Allocation of the tokens was based on relative caseload/referral volume, as well as county interest. The Project understands that the limited scope of this service offering will not completely meet the statewide demand for this service. The Project will evaluate the success of this offering and pursue enhancing or increasing SBC availability should the opportunity become available. The Project is working with counties to ensure all obstacles to implementation are removed.
- APD Re-engineering Process – The Office of Systems Integration (OSI) launched an APD re-engineering effort to examine the process for submitting and reviewing all county APDs. This includes CWS/CMS, SAWS, and generic IT items, but not SAWS Consortia Annual Advance Planning Document Updates. Regional Users Groups are receiving customized follow up training. The Bay Area had training in February, the Southern Region had training March 20, 2008, and the remaining regions had training in November and December of 2008.
- System Training
 - o Statewide training has commenced. AMBL has completed startup activities and are already providing training. The schedule and registration process is available via the CWS/CMS web site. This 2-year contract will be in place through most of 2010.
 - o The State Training Application Resource (STAR) online training modules, including the licensing module, have been created and updated. In addition, applications will be created that focus on changes stemming from Application releases. Visit the CWS/CMS web site for details.
- Service Level Agreements – County representatives are working with CDSS, DTS, the CWS/CMS Project, and IBM to finalize Service Level Agreements for system operation.

For more information contact Melody Hayes at 916-263-1130 or melody.hayes@osi.ca.gov

Project Website: <http://www.hwcws.cahwnet.gov/>

Los Angeles SAWS Update

LEADER Replacement System (LRS) RFP

- The County is in the process of evaluating revised pricing schedules received in response to Addendum Number 9. In light of recent developments concerning the federal, State, and County budgets and the declining economic conditions, as well as the need for pricing clarifications on the original submissions, Addendum Number 9 was released to the vendor community on January 8, 2009 asking for revised pricing schedules by February 9, 2009.
- The LRS RFP and Diligence Library may be found at the following website:
(http://dpss.lacounty.gov/dpss/LRS_RFP/RFP.cfm).
- The proposed FY2009/2010 Governor's budget calls for a six month delay in LRS, which will postpone initiation of the Design, Development, and Implementation (DD&I) phase from January 2010 to July 2010.

LEADER Modifications and Enhancements

- On January 30, 2009, LEADER Build #222 was implemented to Production along with the following enhancements and several corrections:
 - Farm Bill impact to Inactive, Dormant, Expunged Cash and Food Stamps accounts – Automation of the new expungement time frames
 - Replace Current Template: Medi-Cal Status Report (MC 176S) English & Spanish
- Development and testing of LEADER Build #223 continues and is scheduled for Production implementation on February 27, 2009. The following enhancements are targeted for inclusion:
 - Automation of SSI/SDX MEDS Worker Alerts
 - Enhancements to the Veteran's Referral process
 - Enhancements to the LEADER/Welfare-to-Work interface to include Cal-Learn information
- Enhancements targeted for upcoming LEADER Builds are highlighted below:
 - LEADER/IVR Interface to allow participants to request a personalized identification number (PIN) via Interactive Voice Response (IVR)
 - Modifications to change the existing GAIN exemption logic
 - LEADER application changes for EBT Transition from JPMorgan to ACS State and Local Solutions
 - Modifications to the Customer Service Center, Case Outline screen
 - Triggering the Notice of Missed Interview Form (DFA 386) in English & Spanish for Redetermination appointments

For more information contact Susan Bosquit at 626-312-6001, or susanbosquit@dpss.lacounty.gov

LEADER Replacement System Website: http://www.ladpss.org/dpss/LRS_RFP/default.cfm

Submit your comments and suggestions to Meg Sheldon at 916-443-1749 or msheldon@cwda.org