

**SECTION 1115 FY 05 GRANTS (AWARDED 8/1/05)
QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE REPORT
COVER SHEET**

1. Grant Number: **90FD0106**
2. Grantee Name and Address: **Vermont Agency of Human Services
Office of Child Support
103 South Main Street
Waterbury, VT 05671-1901**
3. Phone Number: **(802) 241-2319**
4. Project Title: **Project UNIMED**
5. Period of Performance: **February 1, 2007 – April 30, 2007**
6. Approved Project Period: **August 1, 2005 – December 31, 2007**
7. Period Covered by this Report (Report due 30 days later):
- | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------|-------------------------------------|-------|
| 5 th Quarterly (10/31/06) | _____ | 6 th Quarterly (1/31/07) | _____ |
| 7 th Quarterly (4/30/07) | __X__ | 8 th Quarterly (7/31/07) | _____ |
8. Principal Investigator and Phone Number: **Jeff Cohen, (802) 241-2319**
9. Author's Name and Phone Number: **Robin Arnell, (802) 241-2236**
10. Date of Report: **May 25, 2007**
11. Report Number (sequentially): **7**
12. Name of Federal Project Officer: **John Jolley**
13. Date Reviewed by Federal Project Officer:
14. Comments (if any):

VERMONT OFFICE OF CHILD SUPPORT
PROJECT UNIMED: A Unified Approach to Medical Support through
Intra-Agency Collaboration and Data Exchange
Grant Number 90FD0106

SEVENTH QUARTERLY PROJECT PERFORMANCE REPORT
Reporting Period February 1, 2007-April 30, 2007

❖ Major Activities and Accomplishments this Period

During the seventh quarter of the grant, Policy Studies Inc. (PSI), our contractor, continued system programming. System enhancements were made to collect data related to medical support obligations, to store custodial parent insurance information on our mainframe system, to add medical support information to our court download package, and to update our arrears affidavit form to accept cash medical judgment information. PSI also worked on two changes to the Vermont Office of Child Support website. These changes will allow customers access to their insurance plan information and give employers the ability to report plan information through the OCS website. Additional system enhancements, such as changing our case status codes to identify medical only cases and modifying our financial system to process cash medical support, are currently being programmed.

Testing occurred on the programming mentioned above and on some of the system enhancements that were programmed last quarter.

The mainframe system enhancements to improve communication capabilities between IV-A and IV-D staff and accept the new federal coding standards for tribal and international cases were tested, trained, and implemented this quarter.

Our data team met four times with a PSI data warehouse developer to define the data set for our data mining model (Non-custodial parents likely to secure private health insurance for their children) and work on moving new mainframe fields into our data warehouse.

The collaborative partners (OCS-child support, OVHA-Medicaid, ESD-TANF) met once during the reporting period to review and revise processes, discuss data requirements, and receive contract updates. A sub-group of this team also met to begin exploration on system and procedural changes necessary to pursue cases where only the child on an OCS case is Medicaid active.

❖ Other Activities

We continued to have weekly status meetings with PSI to monitor programming and testing status. In this period, we had eight of these meetings.

Five OCS Medical Support Update Trainings were held for staff during this reporting period. This training covered the new medical support requirements in the 157 report, appropriate

referrals, the 137 (Child and Medical Support Authorization) and 137M (Medical Support Authorization) forms, order writing, and Medicaid case referral numbers.

The Grant Steering Team met three times in the reporting period to track the progress of the grant. This team has focused much effort on the various reporting requirements for the grant and how best to capture certain data.

OCS also met with OVHA (Office of Vermont Health Access- Medicaid) to collaborate on expanding the data set used to calculate cost savings and cost recovery. Follow-up meetings on this front have been scheduled.

❖ **Problems**

The OCS Employer Services Unit (ESU) is having a difficult time obtaining policy numbers from insurance plan administrators due to HIPAA regulations. This was resolved by OVHA granting the ESU supervisor rights to their online policy number look-up.

We have also been having problems with how cases are set up by the IV-A office. Some cases are unworkable due to unknown or deceased absent parents and are not being coded properly to identify these case characteristics. IV-A will send a reminder message to staff.

❖ **Significant findings and events**

The most significant event that occurred this period was the system programming and implementation of mainframe modifications by Policy Studies Inc.

❖ **Dissemination activities**

Staff was sent emails explaining the FIPS code and IV-A/IV-D communication changes that were implemented on our system.

❖ **Activities planned for next reporting period**

The following activities are planned for the next reporting period: 1) system programming, testing and training; 2) weekly status meetings with PSI; 3) continue to develop and monitor interagency activities; 4) contractor warranty period begins.

Respectfully submitted:

Robin Arnell
Project Manager/OCS Supervising Attorney