

**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: **November 1, 2007 – December 31, 2007**
6. Approved Project Period: **August 1, 2005 – December 31, 2007**
7. Period Covered by this Report (Report due 30 days later):
- 7th Quarterly (4/30/07) _____ 8th Quarterly (7/31/07) _____
- 9th Quarterly (11/30/07) _____ 10th Quarterly (1/31/08) X
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: **January 28, 2008**
11. Report Number (sequentially): **10**
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

TENTH QUARTERLY PROJECT PERFORMANCE REPORT
Reporting Period November 1, 2007-December 31, 2007

❖ **Major Activities and Accomplishments this Period**

During the final quarter of the grant, extensive testing occurred on the cash medical support processing programming. Members of this testing team worked a significant amount of time to ensure that the system processes money properly. These system modifications were checked into our mainframe production environment.

A significant amount of testing also occurred on our court download package. To date, we have a few screen selections left to re-test and then the changes will be trained and implemented. This will occur by the end of January.

The revised arrears affidavit was tested, trained and implemented this quarter. Eight training sessions throughout the state were conducted before the affidavit was implemented. Some staff is having difficulty with the modifications so we will be offering some follow-up training during the month of February.

A number of clean-up projects occurred in November and December. In November, an extensive clean-up project of approximately 700 cases which were likely to be in an incorrect status code occurred. A smaller project was also completed to re-populate docket numbers on the ORDR screen that were removed inadvertently when the ORDR screen changes were installed into our production mainframe. In December, we completed a clean-up project of previously closed cases that have direct pay to CP orders which re-opened due to Medicaid activity. To avoid the charging of support on our system, the direct pay orders on these cases were removed and the case status was updated to indicate that the case was being worked for medical support only.

Our data team met four times with the Policy Studies, Inc. (PSI) data warehouse developer to work on installing new mainframe fields into our data warehouse and complete our data-mining model. These field additions to the OCS data warehouse (PEAKS) were reviewed for consistency with the ACCESS mainframe. There are still a few fields not working properly in PEAKS. The developer is working to have this resolved by the end of January when our warranty period expires.

The collaborative partners (OCS-child support, OVHA-Medicaid, ESD-TANF) met twice during the reporting period to review and revise processes, discuss data requirements, and receive contract updates.

❖ Other Activities

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

The Grant Steering Team met once 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.

PSI presented a PEAKS (data-warehouse) knowledge transfer session for IT staff that will be responsible for supporting their system alterations and additions. Technical documentation was turned over at this training session.

During the warranty period, PSI also made corrections to problems reported with the NMSN screen.

❖ Problems

We continued to experience problems with the case status code modifications. In November, we received a number of cases from IV-A that were not appropriate referrals. The types of cases that were incorrectly referred included cases without an assignment, child-only Medicaid cases, and custodial parent only Medicaid cases. A number of meetings occurred to discuss the best way to resolve this. The decision was to restrict IV-A interface rights on Medicaid cases. OCS staff now initiates the case interface when the medical support assignment comes in and the case is reviewed. Since this change was made, we are no longer getting inappropriate Medicaid referrals.

It was discovered at our DCF-OVHA Team meeting that IV-A staff were still using an old version of the 137 (Child and Medical Support Assignment) form. The IV-A district offices had supplies of the old 137 that were not discarded when the new version of the form went into effect. Our IV-A contact followed up to make sure the proper form is used.

OVHA (Office of Vermont Health Access- Medicaid) did not do any follow-up work to expand the data set used to calculate cost savings and cost recovery. Also, the caseload match to Vermont's three largest insurance carriers has not been done. OVHA is currently working on a contract amendment which will allow the insurance match to proceed.

❖ Significant findings and events

The most significant events that occurred this period were the system testing, training and implementation of mainframe modifications by Policy Studies Inc and the clean-up projects that occurred.

❖ Dissemination activities

Staff was given handouts that explain the arrears affidavit modifications.

❖ **Activities planned for next reporting period**

This is the final reporting period. Our final report will be submitted by the March 31, 2008 due date. Also, our no cost extension of our warranty period continues until January 31, 2008. We will continue to resolve system issues during that time as they are identified.

Respectfully submitted:

Robin Arnell
Project Manager/Supervising Attorney