

KANDIYOHI COUNTY FAMILY SERVICE DEPARTMENT

Kandiyohi County Health and Human Services Building
2200 23rd St. NE, Suite 1020, Willmar MN 56201-9423
Phone (320)231-7800 - Fax (320) 231-6285 - V/TDD (320) 231-7076
Toll Free Number: 1-877-464-7800

Jay Kieft
Director

October 8, 2007

To: All IFS Users

From: Sheila Ellingboe, Joint IFS Committee (JIC) Chair

RE: Minnesota Session Laws 2007 - Chapter 148
Article 1, Section 10

Legislation Authorized Grant Funds

Through the extraordinary efforts of Fran Windschitl, Rice County Auditor/Treasurer, the above referenced legislation was passed in the 2007 Regular Session awarding \$180,000 for further IFS development. Each user's share of this grant is \$1,132.07 based on equal distribution between 159 IFS users.

Fran and Keith Carlson, MICA Executive Director drafted the legislation. Keith Carlson (MICA), Joe Mathews (AMC), Scott Simmons (AMC) and Becca Pryse (MACO) presented and supported the legislation through the committee process. Senator Nueville, Koch, and Rest authored the bill on the Senate side. Representatives Fritz and Bly authored the bill and supported it on the House side. It was passed in the state department bill and will be administered through the Office of Technology.

Distribution of Granted Funds

On your behalf, the \$180,000 grant funds have been disbursed from the State to MCCC as fiscal host for the IFSpi Project. The grant funds will not reduce the project cost to individual IFS users but will provide for more enhancements to the system. The Re-Write Steering Committee, a sub-committee of JIC, has been instrumental in guiding this project and in obtaining your input as an IFS user for project direction. Fred Boethin of Carver County was and now Lori Johnson of Clay County is the chair of this sub-committee.

IFSpi Project Update from TriMin Systems

Development of the platform independent version of IFS is moving forward per plan under the direction of the Re-Write Steering Committee. On a quarterly basis the TriMin development team demonstrates its progress to the steering committee which, in turn, reports project status to the full Joint IFS Committee (JIC). On-going independent testing is performed by MCIS and CPUI staffs as system functions are completed. The results of their testing are also reported to

JIC. In addition to quarterly reporting, the system is regularly demonstrated to IFS users and county IT personnel at various conferences and meetings such as the MCCC, AMSSA, and eCounties conferences as well as the quarterly CMHS and IFS year-end training meetings. The new design features and appearance of the system have been well received and the project was recently presented the MACO eCounties Award of Excellence for 2007.

In addition to the overall system design and data base, the Journal Entry, Receipts, and Vouchers processes have been completed. Work is now underway on Warrants processing and the numerous system reports and options. A list of new enhancements has been identified and general designs have been developed for some of them. These new features include, Executive Level Reporting, Accounts Receivable, Encumbrance/Purchasing, Grant Tracking, Accounts Payable, Automated Report Distribution and Advanced IFS Interfaces. The 2006-2007 Minnesota legislature awarded a \$180,000 grant to counties for the project, a portion of which will be used to develop these new features.

Anyone interested in finding out more about the IFSpi project is welcome to attend any of the quarterly Re-Write Steering Committee or JIC meetings. For information on meeting dates and times, please contact either Sheila Ellingboe, Kandiyohi County at (320) 231-6237 or Lori Johnson, Clay County at (218) 299-5006

Implementation Timeline

At the last Re-Write Steering Committee meeting, the implementation timeline was discussed. Auditor/Treasurer users are faced with the 2008 elections and Human Services users who continue to use CSIS to pay child care expenses will need to produce 1099s in early 2009 from the old IFS system. The members of the Steering Committee and of JIC are committed to an implementation timeline that is the best fit for IFS users.

Wrap-Up

I would encourage IFS users to avail themselves of every opportunity to view the system in its current state of development. As the chair of the Joint IFS Committee (JIC) and a member of the Re-Write sub-committee, I have witnessed the enthusiasm and breadth of knowledge the staff of TriMin, MCIS and CPUI and also of the IFS users involved at this level bring to this project. They are to be commended for their dedicated efforts.