



VOLUME 2
ISSUE

02

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2011

NOTE:

Volume 2, Issue 1 WAS
Volume 1, Issue 10

MONTHLY
UPDATE
FROM
PROJECT STARSHIP
SAMS

STARSHIP STRATEGIES

Systems

Transformation

And

Rebalancing

SAMS

Helps

Information

Processing

Social

Assistance

Management

System



this issue

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PROJECT UPDATE

This edition of the newsletter focuses on recent revisions made within SAMS in an effort to improve operations. As SAMS Administrators please make note of these changes and share this newsletter with your local provider agencies so they too are aware.

The DACS Support team has reinstated monthly SAMS Administrator calls. The first calls were held on May 13th and 20th (repeat session). We look forward to this monthly dialogue and encourage the SAMS Administrators and AAA Directors to utilize MyNJPortal to offer feedback.

Nancy Field, DACS



DACS MOVES TO "RANDOMLY GENERATED CONSUMER IDs"

SAMS normally generates the unique Consumer ID# based on the consumer's Date of Birth and last 4 digits of the Social Security Number (**SSN**). However, if two consumers have the same Date of Birth and the same last 4 digits of the SSN, SAMS will not allow the second consumer record to be created. This particular scenario recently occurred in one county.

Therefore, DACS made the decision to move to a "**Randomly Generated Consumer ID**" method which will ensure that a unique Consumer ID# can be generated for all consumers regardless if the consumers have the same DOB and last 4 digits of the social security number. This change has no effect on existing consumer records.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any concerns regarding this change.

William Caldwell, DACS

SCREEN FOR COMMUNITY SERVICES

The Screen for Community Services was modified April 1, 2011. Those counties utilizing the Screen were immediately notified of the following changes:

- a) The original question #21 (MR,DD, MI) is now broken down into three individual questions with specific instruction to refer to OCCO if the person answers "**YES**".
- b) Financial questions 26 and 27, the year has been changed to 2011. The amounts are still applicable.

Nancy Field, DACS

NEW “CARE ENROLLMENTS” ADDED

The Quality Assurance Unit within the Division of Aging and Community Services has decided to initially utilize the SAMS care management module for purposes of monitoring all care managers' journal notes. After a county is trained, all journal notes will be entered in the Care Plan Journal within the care management module. Two new Care Enrollments: “GO” and “JACC” were added to SAMS for the sole purpose of entering journal notes in the care management module; it is **NOT** for recording GO or JACC services.

The QA unit has identified specific QA data they wish to gather within the Care Plan Journal, including such data as monthly contacts, quarterly visits, provider contacts, etc...

Training on the use of the SAMS Care Management module for the above stated purpose is incorporated into the ADRC Rollout. As each county receives ADRC training for Information and Assistance and Screen, they will also be trained on the use of the care management module.

Kathleen Seaman, DACS

INFORMATION AND REFERRAL/ASSISTANCE “TRACKING” MADE EASIER

Before the availability of SAMS, Area Agencies on Aging (AAA) kept track of their I&A units in various ways - everything from handwritten “ticks” to using consumer index cards. SAMS, a client-tracking system, will record each time an I&A consumer/caller contacts the office, track the reason for the call, identify the various topics discussed and the referrals made. This gathering of information provides a whole new realm of reporting capability.

As was reported by Bergen County, when asked by a public official for specific ethnic data, a report was quickly and easily generated to meet that special request. SAMS even has the ability to report on the most frequent topics discussed, which is invaluable in determining what information your I&A staff should be well trained on.

continued...

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INFORMATION AND REFERRAL/ASSISTANCE “TRACKING” MADE EASIER

continued...

We encourage each county to work diligently with their I&A provider staff to ensure that the required elements needed for each I&A call is captured.

These elements include:

Required Data Element	LOCATION IN SAMS	
	Call Summary Screen	Register “NEW” I&R Caller or Details Screen *
Age / DOB		X
Phone		X
Address		X
Ethnicity		X
Poverty		X
Race		X
Disabled		X
Veteran		X
Nutrition Questions		X**
Caller Type	X Left	
Referred by	X Left	
Disability Type	X Left	
Outcome of Call (ADRC Activity)	X Right	
Referral to Services	X Right	

* Details Screen is located within the SAMS Consumer Record ** Consumer Details Screen Only

The I&A Supervisor, as well as the individual user, can monitor their own I&A data entry to ensure all above elements are captured during a call by running a “**Missing Data**” report. In addition, the I&A Supervisor should ensure that staff are capturing a “**Unit of Service**” at the end of each call. These features will be pointed out once again as the ADRC Project team comes to each county to roll out ADRC.

Deanna Freundlich, DACS

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