eXPRS NEWS
Express Payment & Reporting System

INSIDE:

Status of Implementataion
By Jack Morgan

The Oregon Department of Human Services (DHS) is preparing to implement a new payment system for Developmental Disabilities, Mental Health and Alcohol and Drug Services. It will replace the current payment procedures for services authorized under County Financial Assistance Agreements and direct contracts between DHS and service providers. It will be implemented in two stages, the first will occur in July 2005, the second in July 2006.

Recently two documents have been sent out to describe, "what changes and what doesn't" in local business practices when eXPRS is implemented in July 2005. These documents are also available on our website at http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/spd/provtools/dd/exprs/index.shtml. All comments in these documents pertain to FY 2005-06. Planning is underway for the changes in FY 2006-07, and more information will be provided later.

Field-testing of the training plan and elements of the eXPRS system is currently underway in six counties. This phase of the testing will be completed by the end of March. Things that do not work well will be fixed during April.

DHS will provide training for all those who will use eXPRS to perform their duties. The training for eXPRS will occur in May 2005. There will be opportunities after the training to practice what has been learned, using a version of eXPRS that is loaded with test data. After the training and practice period, users will participate in a training assessment to determine if they are able to perform the functions for

Training for eXPRS will be provided using NetLink, an internet based system. Find out how NetLink works and what your staff will need, to use NetLink: http://www.dhs.state.or.us/training/tools/netlink.htm.

Watch for the training schedule and register early ... maximize your options.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

April 2005

Register early for a specific training date and time. Investigate NetLink so you are prepared to use it for training.

May 2005

User Training will occur throughout the month.

July 2005

Begin using eXPRS.

which they will be responsible. Additional training and technical assistance will be offered to those who need it. A reasonable level of proficiency must be demonstrated before users are enrolled in eXPRS.

Status of Sytem Development
By Pete Mallord

The eXPRS team has accomplished a significant milestone in the application development by completing the application "beta" version. An application reaches "beta" when most of the functionality has been built and tested, and is ready for customers to begin their verification. The "beta" is a crucial step in the development process and generally represents confidence in the project's ability to satisfy the needs for which it was undertaken.

While much work has been accomplished, there is still much work to do to prepare for our implementation scheduled July 1, 2005. For the application, the critical work remaining involves "User Acceptance Testing." User Acceptance Testing is the formal verification from our customers that the system will meet their needs and should be moved into an operational status.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS
Q: Who should be trained to use eXPRS?

A: eXPRS primarily replaces activities that are performed in the areas such as contracting and CPMS reporting. CPMS enrollment and termination, and the processing of contract amendments, will occur in eXPRS. A new method of requesting payment (submitting claims) will also occur in eXPRS. So people who are involved with CPMS, contracting and bookkeeping activities are the most likely people who will need it. Exactly what changes will impact your organization depends to some extent on the program area and service element(s) for which you are responsible. More information about the impact of eXPRS on local business practices is available at

http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/spd/provtools/dd/exprs/index.shtml.

LINKS:

● **eXPRS web address:**

http://www.oregon.gov/
DHS/spd/provtools/dd/ex-
prs/index.shtml

● **DHS training page:**

https://dhstraining.hr.state.
or.us/training/

● **NetLink login page:**

https://dhs-netlink.hr.state.
or.us/netlink/

Contact Information:

info.exprs@state.or.us

Q: How do I arrange for my staff to be trained?

A: A description of the training plan and the preliminary registration process is described in an Action Request sent March 7, which is available at:

http://www.dhs.state.or.us/policy/spd/transmit/ar/2005/ar05010.pdf.

The preliminary registration was due March 18, so if you have not completed that task please do so ASAP. Formal registration will begin the first week of April.