



CHRIS  
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## Changes to CHRIS *Plus*

Olga Camacho

In order to better support Indicator 12 (*Percent of children referred by Part C prior to age 3, who are found eligible for Part B and who have an IEP developed and implemented by their third birthdays.*) data collection and reporting needs, we will be making some changes to the Transition event screen. These changes will be implemented in CHRIS *Plus* by July 1, 2008. The decision to incorporate these changes was made by the TAWG Executive Board which met in Miami in January 2008.

- The field "Part C to Part B Transition Referral Date" will be added to the Transition event. This field will be defined as the date that the Early Steps program submits a referral, with parent consent, for prekindergarten program eligibility determination or to another community-based service provider to determine eligibility for services.

- The Part C to Part B Transition Referral Date will become the main date for the Transition event and can occur before, during or after the Transition Conference Date.
- The Part C to Part B Transition Referral Date will be displayed in the date portion of the timeline on the Tracking Summary screen. The corresponding label will be "Transition Ref."
- If the Part C to Part B Transition Referral Date occurs when a child is less than 24 months-old, a warning message will appear making users aware that the child is very young. If a user overrides the message and enters the date for a child less than 24 months, the "Transition Ref" text on the timeline will turn red.
- The current Transition Conference Date field will be moved to the right side of the blue bar in the

event detail.

- The Transition Conference Date will be displayed in the summary portion of the timeline section of the Tracking Summary screen.
- The timeline will be allowed to start with either the Part C to Part B Transition Referral Date or the Transition Conference Date.

If you have any questions, please contact the Help Desk at 1-800-231-5747.



## CHRIS NEWS

### Data Archive

Olga Camacho

The next archive of CHRIS *Plus* data is scheduled for June 20, 2008. Only records for children born prior to July 1, 2001, with no Service Coordination activity within the last year will be archived. These records will remain viewable via the Locator screen for the next year. If you have any records you would like to maintain in your active database, enter a Service Coordination event for that child prior to June 20, 2008.

Records that were archived last year on June 15, 2007, will be permanently removed from the active database. A CD containing these records will be sent to you in the next few weeks following the archive.

If you have any questions, please contact the Help Desk.

### CHRIS Training

Cory Beermann

There have been two CHRIS training sessions this year. Our March 28th FDLRS/Island Coast Reporter Training was held at Lee County Public Education Center in Ft. Myers, Florida. There were six CHRIS Users in attendance from Lee and Collier Counties. A New User Training session was conducted on April 11th at the University of Miami for users from FDLRS/South in Miami-Dade County.

We would like to remind you that CHRIS *Plus* training sessions are available to all CHRIS users. Individuals who are new to CHRIS, even if they were granted access by taking the online new user exam, need to attend a New User Training session. If you would like to attend a New User Training session, please send an email to Cory Beermann at [cory@miami.edu](mailto:cory@miami.edu) or contact the Help Desk for more information.



*FDLRS/Island Coast  
Reporter Training*



*University of Miami  
New User Training*



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CHRIS Comments  
Newsletter Schedule for 2008-2009  
August, November, February, May

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## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

### User Survey Results

Christine F. Delgado, Ph.D

The CHRIS project would like to thank the 72 users who completed the 2008 CHRIS User Survey in March. Your responses allow us to document user satisfaction with project activities and help us to continue to meet your needs.

Detailed survey results are available on the CHRIS website at <http://www.chris.miami.edu/Survey2008.pdf>. Survey result highlights are presented below:

- 97% of users indicated that CHRIS meets their case management needs
- 99% of users were satisfied with the services provided by the Help Desk staff
- 95% of users were satisfied

with the quality of the training sessions

- 97% of users were satisfied with the overall quality of CHRIS publications such as the newsletters and training materials
- 94% of users who had visited the CHRIS website in the previous 6 months felt that it was well organized and provided useful information

Although 99% of users indicated that they were aware that CHRIS can be used to create reports, only 49% of users create Standard Reports in CHRIS and only 30% of users create Custom Reports using CHRIS. Additionally, over half of the respondents indicated that they

create reports in CHRIS two times per year or less.

CHRIS contains a variety of reporting options useful for case management, service coordination, problem solving, and specific data needs such as determining the number of IEPs completed prior to children's third birthdays. If you are not currently using CHRIS to create reports, contact Cory Beermann to schedule an online reporter training session. This one-on-one training session is conducted over the telephone and is customized to meet the individual needs of the user. We are committed to helping all of our users benefit from the reporting options in CHRIS.



### CHRIS Gold Timeline

Olga Camacho

We began talking about creating a new version of CHRIS, which we named "CHRIS Gold," a little over four years ago. Filemaker had introduced version 7 which contained a file structure incompatible with our current version 6.0. A number of items discussed at the TAWG meetings that followed were placed in the affectionately named "CHRIS Gold Pile". Several meetings and improved versions of FileMaker later, the actual creation began. We are now in the final stages of CHRIS Gold development. FDLRS/South has begun the process of Alpha testing the program. Once any and

all modifications are made, CHRIS Gold will be released statewide. This is scheduled to occur in September 2008.

In order to help users with this transition, the CHRIS Project is hosting a special CHRIS Gold Pre-Release Meeting on September 9th, 2008, in Orlando. Agenda and hotel information will be disseminated when the details are finalized. We are hoping that all current CHRIS users will be able to attend.

The CHRIS Gold conversion process will begin immediately after this statewide training. We will make

every attempt to limit disruptions to our users. To this end, conversion will occur between Friday, September 12 and Sunday, September 14. Data will be transferred to Polk County Thursday night and all users will have "View Only" access on Friday. CHRIS Gold will be available to all users statewide Monday, September 15, 2008.





### New CHRIS Staff Member

#### **Bijan Boustani**

"A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step." My name is Bijan and I am taking my first steps as the newest member of the CHRIS team. After working for the past two years at the University of Miami Richter Library on an Arts & Architecture database, I recently graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science and English Literature.

As part of the CHRIS Project, I hope to continue the standard of excellence that has been a staple of

the project for years while doing my best to help the project progress and expand.

Working as part of the CHRIS project is really an ideal situation for me. Not only do I get exposure to technology, but I also get to interact with great people and feel as though I am making a tangible contribution.

Having looked over the history of the project and the people involved, I feel as though I have



joined a special family of people. I'm really looking forward to meeting everyone and please don't hesitate to send me an email at [bijan@miami.edu](mailto:bijan@miami.edu) or give me a call at the CHRIS Help Desk.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **Upcoming Meetings/Conferences**

CHRIS Gold Pre-Release Meeting on September 9th in Orlando, Florida. All current CHRIS users should attend. Please mark your calendars.



### **CHRIS Training**

To register for any CHRIS training session, send an e-mail to Cory Beermann at [cory@miami.edu](mailto:cory@miami.edu) or visit the Training web page at [www.chris.miami.edu/training.htm](http://www.chris.miami.edu/training.htm).

### **Reporter Training**

Contact the Help Desk at 1.800.231.5747 to schedule a training session on how to create reports using CHRIS data. Training sessions last 4-5 hours and users can request the development of specific custom reports. For more information, go to [www.chris.miami.edu](http://www.chris.miami.edu).

### **Share a CHRIS story!**

Do you have an interesting CHRIS story that you would like to share with everyone? If so, please email us at [chris.um@miami.edu](mailto:chris.um@miami.edu).

### **Inform Your Colleagues**

Have you read an article that would be of interest to the Child Find community? If so, send the citation information for the article to [chris.um@miami.edu](mailto:chris.um@miami.edu). We will highlight articles in future editions of the newsletter.

### **Hurricane Season Preparation**

Another year of lightning, tropical storms, and (of course) hurricanes is rapidly approaching. All CHRIS users should take the necessary precautions to protect their computer systems. Remember to back up your hard drive and protect your equipment against power surges.



### **Do you want to be on the CHRIS mailing list?**

If you are interested in receiving a copy of the CHRIS Comments Newsletter via email, send us your email address at [chris.um@miami.edu](mailto:chris.um@miami.edu). Newsletters are distributed in Adobe PDF format and can be downloaded and saved on your local computer. If you cannot open PDF files, go to [www.adobe.com](http://www.adobe.com) and download a copy of the free Adobe Acrobat Reader today!