

Welcome to *E-YASI*, an electronic newsletter from the New York State Division of Probation and Correctional Alternatives (DPCA), written specifically for YASI users and policymakers.

E-YASI is also available on the Probation Services Suite of *eJusticeNY* and on the DPCA website www.dpca.state.ny.us.



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- 1. YASI 5; Caseload Explorer Integration; Statewide Server-CHANGES AND ENHANCEMENTS**

For the past several months Orbis Partners, DPCA, and AutoMon have been working with all 57 YASI counties to complete the YASI 5 web based software deployment. Counties not using Caseload Explorer received a web based stand alone version of YASI 5 and Caseload Explorer counties received a web based version of YASI 5 that is integrated with Caseload Explorer.

Deployment has been completed county by county with Orbis, DPCA, and AutoMon working together with individual county Probation Directors/Commissioners, YASI liaisons, and IT departments for a near seamless transition. Migration of the 57 YASI counties to the YASI 5 web based version and the single statewide server is nearly complete!

Successful migration of NYS to YASI 5 and the statewide server will allow Orbis to host the NYS YASI Statewide Server until DCJS is prepared to migrate the data and host the software on a statewide server within their NY Offender Assessment and Data Sharing (NOADS) system, similar to the COMPAS adult assessment protocol.

YASI 5 brings NYS users many new changes and enhancements to better meet their needs and improve outcomes for youth and families.

The YASI 5 Full Assessment includes a new Aggression/Violence domain; the Employment and Free Time domains have been combined; and the Mental Health domains are now displayed in a new way. Items remain intact, but have been re-located to other domains to be more predictive and more meaningful for case planning.

The YASI Pre-Screen identifies which domains contributed to the risk score with a check mark appearing beside each domain that shows some evidence of risk. The Pre-Screen also now includes a 'mini' protective factor score of low, moderate, or high, to supplement the risk information provided during the Pre Screen triage process.

The Case Planning component of YASI 5 is now divided into 4 steps and instructions to complete each step have been streamlined. The 4 steps include the *Behavioral Analysis* (formerly the Offense Analysis); *Priority and Target Selection* (formerly picking of top 3 priority domains), the new software will automatically identify the dynamic risk and protective items that contribute to the score; *Feedback* summarizes the domains and items identified as priority and reminds users of the identified incentives for the youth; and *Goals and Action Steps* helps YASI users identify long term goals for the period of supervision, short term goals for the current quarter, and action steps for the contact to contact period.

Additional changes within YASI 5 include scoring revisions based on the data analyzed during the 2007 YASI Long Term Validation Study. The revised scoring improves predictive accuracy and provides more useful interpretation of the results. Specific revisions include different scoring for girls and boys based on their recidivism rates; the rate of low risk Pre-Screen cases has been increased without jeopardizing public safety; the 6 level overall dynamic risk and protective factor scores in the Full Assessment have also been refined to increase predictive accuracy.

Data features specific to the integration with Caseload Explorer include the **Historical data search feature** which allows for a number of search criteria to enable the association of current YASI data (i.e. Staff, Clients, Assessments), to equivalent records in Caseload Explorer. When a user attempts to access or create a new client or assessment from Caseload Explorer, an automatic search will present the user a list of clients and/or assessments that may be a match and give the user the opportunity to associate them, if applicable, to the item in Caseload Explorer. Also included is the **Direct data log in feature** that allows direct access to the YASI software without going through the Caseload Explorer interface. By logging in directly, users have access to all features that are not client or assessment specific (i.e. reports, Detention Screen Results). Caseload Explorer will also populate many of the fields under the Legal History Domain in YASI 5 to include age at first involvement, prior complaints, violations as well as conviction/adjudication information. Additionally, CE will populate the total family income and number of people supported under the Family Domain.

2. Welcome Tompkins and St. Lawrence Counties!

Two more NYS counties implemented YASI in their juvenile probation systems, bringing the statewide total to 57 counties. Tompkins executed their YASI MOU in January 2009 and St. Lawrence executed their MOU in April 2009. Welcome to the probation staff in both counties!

3. Juvenile Justice Resources

- ✓ *Community-Based Mental Health Programs Improve Youth Performance and Save Millions in School Costs*-this 5/7/07 report by SAMSHA reveals that new data shows lower drop out rates and improved social and emotional well-being for youth in system of care programs (coordinated networks of community based mental health services for youth with serious mental health challenges). Access this report at <http://www.samsha.gov/newsroom/advisories/0905064401.aspx>
- ✓ A new brochure is available from the NYS Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services entitled "Talking with Your Kids about Problem Gambling". Access this brochure at <http://www.oasas.state.ny.us/pio/documents/parenttalkprobgambling.pdf>
- ✓ The NYS Council on Children and Families invite you to visit the Kids' Well Being Indicators Clearinghouse (KWIC) website at www.nyskwic.org and to join the KWIC News email subscription service in the upper right hand corner of the home page. This service will keep users informed of updates and new features on KWIC. For those unfamiliar, KWIC is a web tool used to gather, plot, map, and monitor NYS children's health, education, and well being indicator data. KWIC is a one-stop resource that contains data provided by a number of NYS agencies and the US Census. KWIC staff is also available to answer questions at nyskwic@yahoo.com.
- ✓ *The Children's Plan* is a document required under NYS legislation to address the mental health needs of children and social emotional learning in schools. The Children's Plan is a blueprint to move toward an array of services focused on early intervention, increased collaboration, more effective treatment, and improved outcomes for children. The Children's Plan is endorsed by all 9 NYS child serving agencies, including DPCA, and has resulted in 23 joint initiatives to ensure that real change occurs in children's services. To access The Children's Plan electronically, visit www.omh.state.ny.us/omhweb/engage. To request a hard copy of The Children's Plan, please contact Patti Donohue at either 518-485-5160 or Patricia.Donohue@DPCA.state.ny.us.
- ✓ Warren County Probation Supervisor John Adams was recently featured in a 4/5/09 Post Star Newspaper article entitled "*Teen Drinking, drug use survey shows improvement made over past five years*". The article discussed the Warren and Washington counties' survey of students by the Council for Prevention of Alcohol and Substance Abuse. The survey's 2009 data is based on more than 7,000 students in grades 6-12 from 14 school districts. Congratulations to John Adams!
- ✓ The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) released a report titled "*Highlights of the 2007 National Youth Gang Survey*" in April 2009. Access this report at <http://www.ojjdp.ncjrs.gov/publications/PubAbstract.asp?pubi=247164>
- ✓ *Parents' Guide to Truancy* was developed by the Hamilton Fish Institute on School and Community Violence. Access this 36 page guide at <http://www.hamfish.org/>

- ✓ The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) released a report titled "*Juvenile Arrests 2007*" in April 2009. This report may be accessed at <http://ojjdp.ncjrs.gov/publications/PubAbstract.asp?pubi=247324>
- ✓ In March 2009 the Models for Change newsletter was launched by the Justice Policy Institute to inform juvenile justice practitioners of the current research and progress of the Models for Change juvenile justice system reform initiative. To subscribe to this newsletter access www.modelsforchange.net.

4. New and improved Orbis Partners website

On June 10th, 2009 Orbis Partners announced the launch of their new and improved website. The website will provide up to date information on the core consulting activities and products provided by Orbis, including assessment, programs, research, and software. Access the website at www.orbispartners.com.

YASI Factoid!

Nineteen juvenile justice professionals from ten NYS jurisdictions have completed the YASI E-Learning program on line. This program replaces the former two-day YASI "Initial" training and provides participants with information on the YASI Pre Screen and Full Assessment. The YASI E-Learning program can be accessed via the internet at <http://www.vivatexte.com/eprep/orbis/yasi>.

E-YASI is distributed by the New York State Division of Probation and Correctional Alternatives (DPCA). If you have any questions or comments regarding the YASI project or E-YASI, please contact Patricia Donohue, Community Corrections Representative at 518-485-5160 or email her at Patricia.Donohue@DPCA.state.ny.us.