WINNIE the Scoop! Newsletter #1

NOVEMBER 18, 2020

Please share this information with all WIC Information System users!

Important Dates

- Thursday, November 26, 2020: Thanksgiving Day – MN Help Desk and State Office CLOSED
- Friday, November 27, 2020: Black Friday – MN Help Desk AVAILABLE; State Office CLOSED

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The SPIRIT Web Re-Engineering Project

MINNESOTA **WINNIE**

WIC Information Next-gen for Nutrition, Integrity, & Education

Overview of Project

The information in this Overview section was previously provided in the October 2020 HuBERT Hints #2.

WINNIE is the next iteration of HuBERT. It is a browser-based version of SPIRIT, the software used by a consortium of states that includes MN WIC.

In early 2019, the SPIRIT Users Group (SUG) received approval and funding from USDA to re-write SPIRIT. This was identified as necessary to greatly expand the life of the system, as well as improve performance, security and maintainability. The primary goals include modernizing the application to ensure it continues to be viable into the future by making the system browser-based and improving system performance by streamlining its existing code and using the most current standards for its development.

WINNIE will use the existing database structure, which eliminates the need for any data conversion. It will also support mobile device use and will meet all current accessibility standards.

Development includes re-writing the Clinic, Finance and Vendor modules. A workgroup, the SUG Technical Advisory Committee (STAC), was developed to work with the contractor, CDP, and includes representatives from all states currently using SPIRIT. This workgroup is responsible for ensuring current functionality is maintained and that development stays within the scope of the project, which limits enhancements to improvements where bugs/issues currently occur in the system or small changes that can be made without increasing the initial scope (cost and hours) of the project.

This project has had a very aggressive timeline and is expected to be completed by July, 2022. This includes development, Requirements Validation Testing (RVT), User Accept Testing (UAT), Pilot and Statewide Roll-out.

Project Status

Development – STAC Workgroup Discussions
Development is partitioned into high-level "Features" and detailed "User Stories". For example, a Feature would be Alert/Notes Management. Within that feature are multiple User Stories, including Manage Notes list, Add Notes, Delete Notes, Edit Notes, Manage Alerts list, Add Alerts, Display Alerts, Delete Alerts, Manage System Alerts, etc.

Development discussions of Features and User Stories for the Clinic, Local System Administration and State Administration modules were completed by the STAC Workgroup in July 2020.

Requirements Validation Testing (RVT)
There are seven (7) Requirements Validation Testing (RVT) cycles. It is performed by every SUG State and tested on both Chrome and Edge browsers.

The purpose of RVT is to ensure that each Feature and its User Stories are designed and functioning as intended and answers the questions: Does it look how we expected? Does it do what we thought it would do and how we thought it would do it? Testers identify and document bugs or issues whereby the software does not meet the requirements as agreed upon during the STAC Workgroup discussions.

Cycles 1 – 6 have already been completed. The following is a high-level overview of cycles 1 - 6 and the Features/User Stories tested:

- RVT Cycle 1 – Basic framework; About page

- RVT Cycle 2 – System security and login; Reference Utility (counties)

- RVT Cycle 3 – Reference Utility (income, agencies, grantees, nutrition education); duplicate participants

- RVT Cycle 4 – Manage passwords; Help files; Reference Utility (default food packages, food lists/UPCs, county/city/zip, education topics, Reference Dictionary for drop-down lists, peer topics, state use questions, required fields); Agency Management (local use questions); Participant Search

- RVT Cycle 5 – Reference Utility (risk factors, high risk, clinics); Agency Management (referrals, medical clinics/providers); Demographics; view duplicate participant records; Race Ethnicity; Proxy History; Address History; Initial Contacts; Height/Weight; Bloodwork; Immunizations; Participant List

- RVT Cycle 6 – Security framework; user maintenance; Reference Utility (base food categories, food distribution, food item limits, UPC management, nutrition assessment questions); Manage Notes; Manage Alerts; system alerts; scan/import and view documents; EBT Household Demographics; terminate/reinstate; Certification History; Health Information; infant/mother links; Risk Factors; Food Prescription/Package; Referrals; Nutrition Education (individual, secondary, materials given, peer referrals, goals); Income and Income History; Proof of Residency/ID; Mid-certification assessment; Certification; remove cert/MCA; Work with On-site Group; Potential Duplicate Participants

RVT Cycle 7 is currently scheduled to begin on March 24, 2021 and will take 4-6 weeks to complete testing.

User Acceptance Testing (UAT)

User Acceptance Testing (UAT) uses "scenario-based scripts" that test how everything in the system works and how it all works together. The purpose of UAT is to identify and document bugs or issues with functionality so that, if possible, they can be fixed prior to Pilot. There are two UAT sessions currently scheduled:

- UAT Round #1: 5/31/21 – 6/25/21 → performed by STAC members and designated State Office staff.

- UAT Round #2: 8/9/21 – 9/3/21 → performed by STAC members, State Office staff and Local Agency pilot and other staff who tend to be super-users of the current WIC Information System.

Training

On-line training modules will be created for WINNIE. Agencies should expect at least 3 x 8-hour days to be committed, per staff person, to training.

The functionality in WINNIE is very similar to HuBERT. However, since it is a browser-based system, it has a different look and feel to it and some of the processes are slightly different. We will be creating modules that would be appropriate for both a new or current staff person.

Creation of the new training modules cannot be started until we are confident the screens will look and function as they will when the system is piloted. We believe this should coincide with RVT Cycle 7 and development will occur at the same time as RVT Cycle 7, UAT #1, and UAT #2.

We intend to have training modules that would be considered "drafts" available 4-6 weeks prior to Pilot and finalized versions available 6-8 weeks prior to Statewide Roll-out.

Pilot

Dakota County has graciously agreed to pilot WINNIE. Pilot is tentatively scheduled to begin in November 2021. Considerations for who should pilot included:

- A medium-sized agency who are open daily
- Wide variety of applicants/participants
- Staff who could be considered "super-users"
- Familiar with the pilot process
- Relatively close to the State Office for on-site assistance

This is a lot of extra work for a Local Agency. It includes reviewing draft training modules and providing feedback, identifying any training "gaps", reporting and documenting all bugs/issues found, and daily communication with the State Office to assess how Pilot is proceeding.

We really appreciate Dakota County being willing to assist us with piloting this project!

Statewide Roll-out

At this time, we expect that Statewide Roll-out will be staggered and take about 3-4 months to complete in order to allow for on-site State staff assistance if requested by an agency.

Assuming there aren't any unforeseen complications, Statewide Roll-out is expected to begin in March 2022.

Timeline

The following is a timeline for WINNIE showing the dates previously indicated in this newsletter:

Task	FEB 2021	MAR 2021	APR 2021	MAY 2021	JUN 2021	JUL 2021	AUG 2021	SEP 2021	OCT 2021	NOV 2021	DEC 2021	JAN 2022	FEB 2022	MAR 2022	APR 2022	MAY 2022	JUNE 2022
DRAFT TRAINING MODULES	X	X	X	X	X	X	X										
CYCLE 7 RVT (3/24-4/21)		X	X														
UAT ROUND #1 (5/31-6/25)				X	X												
UAT ROUND #2 (8/9-9/3)							X	X									
TRAINING FOR PILOTS								X	X								
PILOT (11/1/21-3/31/22)										X	X	X	X	X			
FINALIZE TRAINING MODULES										X	X						
TRAINING AVAILABLE (ALL)													X	X	X	X	X
STATEWIDE ROLL-OUT														X	X	X	X

Future Newsletters

"WINNIE the Scoop" will be included in the third Wednesday Update of each month. Subsequent newsletters will provide more detailed information about the WINNIE software, including: reporting and availability of existing reports, a comparison between enhancement requests submitted for HuBERT and WINNIE functionality, screen-to-screen comparisons between HuBERT and WINNIE, identification of how certain processes/functionality might be different, etc.

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