

ROY COOPER • Governor

MANDY COHEN, MD, MPH • Secretary

SUSAN OSBORNE • Assistant Secretary for County Operations for Human Services

9/14/2021

DEAR COUNTY DIRECTORS OF SOCIAL SERVICES DEAR EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS OF ADOPTION CHILD PLACING AGENCIES

ATTENTION: ADOPTION PROGRAM MANAGERS AND ADOPTION SUPERVISORS

SUBJECT: ADOPTION PROMOTION PROGRAM FUND

REQUIRED ACTION: Information Only

Annually, the North Carolina Division of Social Services provides baselines and program updates for the Adoption Promotion Program to the county child welfare agencies. This letter will provide the same information for the Adoption Promotion Program Fund for SFY 2021-2022.

While the purpose of this letter is to announce the baselines and programs for the Adoption Promotion Program Fund, it is just as important to recognize the dedication and partnership of the county child welfare agencies and the private child placing agencies with the NC DSS. This partnership resulted in 1,224 children and youth achieving permanency through adoption during the SFY beginning July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021. Thank you for your continuous dedication and support to the children and families of North Carolina.

The Adoption Promotion Program (APP) is a fee-for-service program for contracted private child placing agencies, who are licensed specifically for adoption. The participating agencies must be licensed as an adoption agency under the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services.

Additionally, the private and county agencies must agree that Adoptive Family Readiness, Family Post Placement Support, Child Post Placement Support and Legal Services will be provided by the private agency. The Adoption Promotion Program offers a one time, year-end, proportional funding allocation for county child welfare agencies that exceed a predetermined federal baseline or complete adoptions of teens and/or sibling groups of 3 or more who are placed together for adoption under baseline.

Questions regarding the Adoption Promotion Program can be directed to Beth Riley at <u>Beth.Riley@dhhs.nc.gov</u>. All DSS quarterly submissions and contract agency requests for payments should be emailed directly to <u>app.contracts@dhhs.nc.gov</u>.

Sincerely,

Garla McNeill

Carla McNeill, MSW
Section Chief for Permanency Planning
Division of Social Services, Child Welfare
North Carolina Department of Health and Human
Services

Cc: Susan G. Osborne, Assistant Secretary for County Operations
Richard Stegenga, Deputy Director, Business Operations
Lisa T. Cauley, Senior Director for Child, Family and Adult Services
Teresa Strom, Section Chief for County Operations
Kathy Stone, Section Chief for Child Protective Services and Prevention
Linda Waite, Section Chief for Licensing and Regulatory

Attachments:

- 1. APP Fact Sheet for SFY 2021-2022
- 2. DSS 5320 DSS Monthly Adoption Reporting Form
- 3. DSS 5320A Contract Agency Monthly Adoption Reporting and Payment Form
- 4. DSS 5113 Adoption Services Agreement

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