August 15, 2022

DEAR COUNTY DIRECTORS OF SOCIAL SERVICES

ATTENTION: DIRECTORS, CHILD WELFARE PROGRAM ADMINISTRATORS, ADOPTION PROGRAM MANAGERS, AND ADOPTION SUPERVISORS

SUBJECT: ADOPTION PROMOTION PROGRAM FUND

REQUIRED ACTION: ☒ Information Only  ☐ Time Sensitive  ☐ Immediate

Annually, the North Carolina Division of Social Services (NCDSS) 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 (APP) Fund for SFY 2022–2023.

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 NCDSS. This partnership resulted in 1135 children and youth achieving permanency through adoption during the SFY beginning July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022. Thank you for your continuous dedication and support to the children and families of North Carolina.

The Adoption Promotion Program 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 Postplacement 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 three or more who are placed together for adoption under baseline.

Questions regarding the Adoption Promotion Program can be directed to Mary Mackins at Mary.Mackins@dhhs.nc.gov. All NCDSS quarterly submissions and contract agency requests for payments should be emailed directly to app.contracts@dhhs.nc.gov.
Sincerely,

Adrian W. Daye, MSW
Deputy Director for Child Welfare Practice
North Carolina Division of Social Services

Cc: Susan Osborne, Assistant Secretary for Human Services
    Lisa Tucker Cauley, Senior Director of Child, Family and Adult Services
    Carla McNeill, Section Chief for Permanency Planning
    Tammy Shook, Interim Deputy Director for County Operations
    Kathy Stone, Section Chief for Safety and Prevention Services
    Kimaree Sanders, Interim Section Chief for Regulatory and Licensing
    Peter West, Section Chief for County Operations

Attachments:
1. APP Fact Sheet for SFY 2022–2023
2. Adoption Promotion Criteria and Guidelines
3. DSS-5320A Contract Agency Monthly Adoption Reporting and Payment Form
4. DSS-5113 Adoption Services Agreement

CWS-42-2022