

North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services Division of Social Services

325 North Salisbury Street ● Raleigh, North Carolina 27603 Courier # 56-20-25

Michael F. Easley, Governor Carmen Hooker Buell, Secretary E. C. Modlin, ACSW, Director (919) 733-3055

March 19, 2001

DEAR COUNTY DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES

ATTENTION:

Children's Services Social Workers Children's Services Supervisors Fiscal Officers

SUBJECT: Changes to Program Code 0 (numeric)

EFFECTIVE DATE: Immediately

In response to reported confusion about the use of Program Code 0 (zero), Division staff have completed further research on this issue. As a result, we are able to expand the use of this Program Code to <u>all</u> DSS child welfare workers, regardless of hiring date, when they are working with a TEA-eligible child.

To assure compliance with legislative requirements, county DSS agencies **must** use their child welfare (Program Code 0) allocation for TEA-eligible children first, **until these funds are exhausted**. When Program Code 0 funds are exhausted, county DSS agencies should begin using Program Code R funds for TEA-eligible children. While both Program Codes R and 0 involve the same eligibility requirements relating to the child, the Division must be able to track the separate allocations.

We are also able to expand the use of Program Codes 0 (zero) and R specifically to Service Codes 011-General Recruitment, Assessment and Training of Adoption Parents, and 103-General Recruitment, Assessment and Training of Foster Parents. Effective immediately, Service Codes 011 and 103 may be coded to Program Code 0 or R by any DSS child welfare worker, regardless of hiring date.

Important Note: If a child is IV-E eligible, IV-E funds must be used for all IV-E allowable activities and assistance payments. For example, CPS Case Planning and Case Management Services (Service Code 215) must be coded to Program Code Z (IV-E).

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We hope this expansion of Program Code 0 (zero) is helpful to your child welfare program. If you have questions related to this letter or to Program Code 0, you may contact Hope Hunt in the Policy and Planning Team at (919) 733-4622.

Sincerely,

Chuck An

Charles C. Harris, Chief Children's Services Section

cc: E. C. Modlin Nancy Coston Paul LeSieur Local Support Managers Children's Services Team Leaders Children's Program Representatives Local Business Liaisons Gary Fuquay