

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

325 North Salisbury Street • Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-2445 Courier # 56-20-25-MSC# 2445

Beverly Eaves Perdue, Governor Lanier M. Cansler, Secretary

Sherry S. Bradsher, Director (919) 733-3055

June 17, 2009

DEAR COUNTY DIRECTORS OF SOCIAL SERVICES

PRIVATE LICENSED CHILD PLACING AGENCY

SUBJECT: UPDATE ON THE NC KIDS PROGRAM

As stated in the March 30, 2009 Dear County Director letter, the Division of Social Services is in the process of transferring the management of the Adoption Exchange program back to the Division of Social Services, Child Welfare Services Section. This change will be effective July 1, 2009.

The Division's goal will be to ensure a smooth transition and to minimize any and confusion related to this transition. Recognizing that change is frequently difficult and unpredictable, we ask for your understanding and patience as we work though the details. The toll free numbers will remain the same, but will be unavailable beginning June 24th, 2009. This period is anticipated to be for approximately one week. If your agency receives calls concerning this issue, please explain this transition and that the numbers will become available as soon as possible.

As this date is quickly approaching, agencies will need to immediately begin send requests for child and family registrations directly to the Division of Social Services. The full address is:

> NC KIDS - DHHS DSS 2445 Mail Service Center Raleigh NC 27699-2445

The Division is eagerly anticipating this new way of doing business in order to expedite the process of locating and securing legal permanent homes for children who are unable to be reunified with their removal family. While the purpose of the NC KIDS program has not changed, many of the details as to how this is accomplished will likely change. Information will be shared in future letters as those details are determined. Your partnership in this effort is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

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Charisse S. Johnson, Chief Child Welfare Services

Sherry S. Bradsher CC: Jack Rogers Sarah Barham Child Welfare Services Team Leaders Children's Services Program Representatives **Regulatory and Licensing Services Consultants**