

North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services Division of Social Services 325 North Salisbury Street • Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-2439

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Beverly Eaves Perdue, Governor Lanier M. Cansler, Secretary Sherry S. Bradsher, Director (919) 733-3055

September 1, 2009

## DEAR COUNTY DIRECTORS OF SOCIAL SERVICES

## DEAR EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS OF MATERNITY HOMES

## DEAR EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS OF ADOPTION CHILD-PLACING AGENCIES

## SUBJECT: FISCAL YEAR 2009-2010 STATE MATERNITY FUNDS

Due to recent changes to the funding streams available for Pregnancy Services, several program changes will be implemented for the State Fiscal Year 2009 – 2010. In the past, a variety of funding streams allowed some flexibility in approval of clients for maternity home care. For SFY 2009-2010 this program will be limited to TANF funding only. TANF guidelines limit the number of approved days for maternity home care to 120. Clients who do not meet the TANF financial eligibility requirements will not be approved.

In addition, the Rate Review Committee has not met for the current fiscal year. We will not be able to issues approvals until the rates as established by the DHHS Controller's Office have been approved. The next meeting is scheduled for September 2009. For information on this process, you can contact Linda Eckles with the Controller's Office at Linda.Eckles@dhhs.nc.gov or (919) 855-3682.

For the new fiscal year, you will notice a few additional changes. Included in the approval will be a survey to be completed by the client's Case Worker upon completion of the program. To assure client confidentiality, all electronically transmitted files should be password protected.

Please share this information with your child welfare staff. If you have any questions contact the SMF Coordinator, Tina Bumgarner at <u>tina.bumgarner@dhhs.nc.gov</u> or (828) 397-3901.

Sincerely, Chausse S. John

Charisse S. Johnson, Chief Child Welfare Services

cc: Sherry S. Bradsher Jack Rogers Sarah Barham Child Welfare Services Team Leaders Children's Services Program Representatives Local Business Liaisons Regulatory and Licensing Services Consultants