

ROY COOPER · Governor

MANDY COHEN, MD, MPH · Secretary

SUSAN OSBORNE · Assistant Secretary for County Operations for Human Services

November 2, 2020

## DEAR COUNY DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES

## ATTENTION: ALL CHILD WELFARE STAFF

**JUMAN SER** 

SUBJECT: TRIPLE P – POSITIVE PARENTING PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION SUPPORTS

# **REQUIRED ACTION:** Information Only I Time Sensitive I Immediate

### **PURPOSE:**

This letter serves to:

- 1. Provide an update to the statewide scale-up of Triple P Positive Parenting Program system of interventions (Triple P);
- 2. Describe the Triple P infrastructure in North Carolina; and
- 3. Provide information on the accessibility of available implementation resources and support.

### BACKGROUND

The Triple P system of interventions offers evidence-based parenting and family support strategies to parents of children 0-16 years of age. As a continuum of support, the Triple P system offers a suite of interventions of increasing intensity, ensuring flexibility to meet the needs of families and communities. Triple P is delivered across flexible delivery formats (e.g., individual, group, online), in several different settings (e.g. social service systems, healthcare settings, school systems, private practice).

Triple P is designed to normalize the concept of seeking parenting support, while giving caregivers the confidence and skills to be self-sufficient and manage problems independently. When the system of interventions is saturated in a community, large and favorable effects are demonstrated relative to: (1) child abuse and neglect, (2) out-of-home foster care placements, and (3) emergency department visits indicating child injury.

Since 2017, the Department of Health and Human Services' Divisions of Social Services (DSS) and Public Health (DPH), The Duke Endowment (TDE), Triple P America, the Impact Center at Frank Porter Graham Child Development Institute at UNC Chapel Hill (FPG), and Prevent Child Abuse North Carolina (PCANC) have been working in partnership to reach statewide population level saturation of Triple P. To learn more about North Carolina's Triple P efforts, please visit the NC Triple P Model Scale Up Plan.

### **TRIPLE P INFRASTRUCTURE IN NC**

North Carolina counties are organized into ten Triple P service areas, each involving an array of local family serving organizations, supported by a Local Implementing Agency (LIA). Each LIA leads

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coordination and supports service agencies in their service area with implementation planning, outreach, training coordination, practitioner supports, data collection/reporting, and communications.

NC Triple P Support System partners, FPG, TPA, and PCANC, work with local communities to build sustainable resources, abilities, and performance that support the local use of Triple P. The Support System helps ensure: (1) The right community partners are at the table to support Triple P; (2) Community system capacity and performance to scale Triple P with success and sustainability; (3) Widespread and consistent messaging about positive parenting; (4) Triple P practitioners can competently and confidently deliver Triple P as intended and in ways that are responsive to parent needs and preferences; and (5) Communities feel confident navigating policy and finance environments to optimize Triple P sustainability.

### AVAILABLE IMPLEMENTATION RESOURCES AND SUPPORT

County child welfare agencies are key partners in community-level child well-being efforts. Families who are supported by child welfare services may benefit from Triple P interventions. If well served, these families may influence the reduction of negative child welfare outcomes at community and state levels.

By providing support to local child welfare agencies NC can shift from the traditional way of implementing programs, such as training alone, that do not generate significant outcomes. Implementation support provides an opportunity for local child welfare agencies to discuss and develop the resources, abilities, and performance critical for successful and sustainable Triple P implementation.

NC DHHS DSS has selected Triple P-Level 4 as an Evidence Based Practice for IV-E reimbursement under the Family First Prevention Services Plan starting October 2021. Strengthened agency capacity to achieve intended Triple P outcomes help prepare agencies for success in the Family First environment and advance goals identified in the 2020-2024 North Carolina Child and Family Services Plan.

In the next several months, DSS will fund FPG to offer universal support to county child welfare agencies currently delivering or interested in delivering Triple P to help them achieve capacity to successfully implement and sustain Triple P. FPG support will include a regular Triple P Newsletter and Quarterly Learning Collaborative Forums, to highlight child welfare Triple P efforts, promote implementation best practice, and increase peer-to-peer learning.

To learn more about Child Welfare Implementation Support for Triple P, please visit this resource.

Sincerely,

Kathy P. Stone

Kathy Stone, Section Chief for CPS and Prevention

cc: Susan G. Osborne, Assistant Secretary for County Operations Lisa Cauley, Senior Director of Child, Family and Adult Services Teresa Strom, Section Chief for County Operations Carla McNeill, Section Chief of Permanency Linda Waite, Acting Section Chief for Licensing & Regulatory

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