

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

2407 Mail Service Center®Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-2411

Michael F. Easley, Governor Carmen Hooker Odom, Secretary Pheon E. Beal, Director (919) 733-3055

November 24, 2003

DEAR COUNTY DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES

ATTENTION: CHILD WELFARE SUPERVISORS

Subject: Child and Family Services Reviews – End of Biennium Report

As a result of the federal Child and Family Services Review in North Carolina in March 2001 and the subsequent Program Improvement Plan for the State, the Division recognized a need to make some significant changes to the biennial review process. In collaboration with the Children's Services Advisory Committee and the Children's Services Committee of the North Carolina Association of County Directors of Social Services, the Division revised the biennial review process and review instruments to mirror the federal Child and Family Services Reviews. The revised process was piloted in two counties in September 2001 and fully implemented effective October 1, 2001.

As of June 30, 2003, all 100 counties have had a Child and Family Services Review with this new process. This marks the official end of the first biennium using the Child and Family Services Review process that was modeled after the federal review process. Attached is a summary of the results from this biennium, along with four attachments that detail the results further. We hope that this information will be helpful to county Departments of Social Services and their communities as a means to evaluate how they compare to other counties and the state as a whole.

In addition to the hard copy of this letter and attachments, you will be able to access them on the Children's Services web site. If you have any questions, please contact Sara Anderson Mims at (919) 733-3360.

Sincerely,

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Jo Ann Lamm, Program Administrator Family Support and Child Welfare Services Section

JAL:sam Attachments

cc: Pheon Beal Sherry Bradsher Sarah Barham Local Business Liaisons Children's Programs Representatives Family support and Child Welfare Services Section Team Leaders

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Dear County Director July 1, 2002 Page 2

FSCWS-33-03