

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

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Michael F. Easley, Governor Carmen Hooker Odom, Secretary Sherry S. Bradsher, Director (919) 733-3055

July 11, 2007

DEAR COUNTY DIRECTORS OF SOCIAL SERVICES:

ATTENTION: Adoption Supervisors

SUBJECT: Additional Resources for Post Adoption Services

Once again, we are pleased to announce that the Division has entered into partnership with several agencies to offer additional post-adoption services to the many families who have adopted children from the foster care system. The 1997 Adoption and Safe Families Act mandates that a portion of the Safe and Stable Families Act funds be used for adoption promotion and support, including post-adoption services. After careful review of the response to our Request for Proposals, the Division has contracted with five agencies to provide services throughout the state. Please note that several counties have two agencies that are providing post-adoption support services thereby giving families a choice of service providers.

County DSS agencies are *strongly* encouraged to contact these agencies to learn of their service provisions and to refer families who could benefit from post-adoption services.

The contracted agencies and contacts are:

- Another Choice for Black Children, Ruth Amerson (704)394.1124, serves Alexander, Alleghany, Ashe, Bladen, Brunswick, Catawba, Chatham, Columbus, Cumberland, Duplin, Durham, Edgecombe, Franklin, Greene, Halifax, Harnett, Hoke, Iredell, Johnston, Lee, Mecklenburg, Moore, Nash, New Hanover, Pender, Richmond, Robeson, Sampson, Scotland, Wake, Watauga, Warren, Wayne, Wilkes, Wilson, &Yadkin, Counties.
- Appalachian Family Innovations, Carrie Lauterbach (828)350.9830, serves Buncombe, Cabarrus, Cherokee, Clay, Davidson, Davie, Forsyth, Graham, Haywood, Henderson, Jackson, Macon, Madison, Rockingham, Rowan, Stanly, Stokes, Surry, Swain, Transylvania, & Union Counties

- Children's Home Society, Sandra Yarborough (336)274.6176 ext. 350, serves Alamance, Anson, Beaufort, Bertie, Cabarrus, Camden, Carteret, Caswell, Chowan, Craven, Currituck, Dare, Davidson, Davie, Forsyth, Gates, Granville, Guilford, Hertford, Hyde, Jones, Lenoir, Martin, Montgomery, Northampton, Onslow, Orange, Pamlico, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Person, Pitt, Randolph, Rockingham, Rowan, Stanly, Stokes, Surry, Union, Tyrrell, & Vance counties.
- Martin County Community Action, (1) Cathy Lee Jones (252)825.3336, serves Bertie, Camden, Chowan, Currituck, Gates, Hertford, Martin, Northampton, Pasquotank, Perquimans, and Pitt and (2) Kimberly Stanley (252) 413-6970, serves Beaufort, Carteret, Craven, Dare, Hyde, Jones, Lenoir, Onslow, Pamlico, Tyrrell and Washington counties.
- Mountain Youth Resources, Linda Fitzsimmons (828)586.8958, serves Alexander, Alleghany, Ashe, Avery, Buncombe, Burke, Caldwell, Catawba, Cherokee, Clay, Cleveland, Gaston, Graham, Haywood, Henderson, Iredell, Jackson, Lincoln, Macon, Madison, McDowell, Mecklenburg, Mitchell, Polk, Rutherford, Swain, Transylvania, Watauga, Wilkes, Yadkin, &Yancey counties.

Programs, activities, and support services offered by these partners are resources for the enhancement and support of post adoption services offered by *county DSS* agencies. They are not to be used as substitutes for the services that each agency is expected to provide to adoptive families.

Post-Adoption support services play a critical role in maintaining strong adoptive families. The Division believes that this additional support is necessary to provide services throughout the state. Should you have any problems accessing these services for families or if you need additional information about post adoption services in your area, please contact the **Division's Program Coordinator of Post Adoption Services, Tamika Williams at 919-733-2580 or by email at Tamika.Williams@ncmail.net.**

Sincerely,

Exther J. Thigh

Esther T. High, Acting Chief Family Support and Child Welfare Section

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cc: Sherry Bradsher JoAnn Lamm Children's Program Representatives Family Support and Child Welfare Services Team Leaders Local Business Liaisons Licensed Child Placing Agencies Community Based Programs

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