

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

325 North Salisbury Street ● Raleigh, North Carolina 27603 Courier # 56-20-25

Michael F. Easley, Governor Dempsey Benton, Secretary Sherry S. Bradsher, Director (919) 733-3055

September 28, 2007

Dear County Director of Social Services

Attention: Children's Services Supervisors and Managers

Subject: Special Children Adoption Incentive Fund (SCAIF)

The Division has heard from many of you about the impact that the unavailability of the Special Children Adoption Incentive Fund will have on your efforts to place some children for adoption. We share your concerns and will continue to advocate for more funds for this program.

We need your assistance in obtaining data to help in our advocacy. For the period from October 1, 2007-November 30, 2007, please provide us with the following data—names, situations, and projected cost of each child for whom you would have submitted an application for the SCAIF if the funds were still available. Please do not submit the entire application; we just need to have these facts.

We are pleased to inform you that any children previously approved for the Special Children Adoption Incentive Fund, but currently unfunded, will begin receiving funds when and if additional appropriations are obtained. This will be effective from the date of the new funding onward, assuming that the children remain eligible.

Please send the requested information to Amelia Lance, our Adoption Coordinator. You can send it by email to <u>Amelia.Lance@ncmail.net</u>. You can also call her if you have any questions at (919) 733-9464. Thank you for your assistance in this important matter.

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

cc: Sherry Bradsher Jo Ann Lamm Sarah Barham Family Support and Child Welfare Team Leaders Children's Programs Representatives Work First Program Representatives Local Business Liaisons

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