

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

325 North Salisbury Street

2420 Mail Service Center ● Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-2420 Courier # 56-20-25

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

October 30, 2008

COUNTY DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES WORK FIRST STAKEHOLDERS

SUBJECT: Suggestions for the Next TANF State Plan

Dear County Director and Work First Stakeholders:

It is now time to develop a new State TANF Plan for North Carolina. An important part of this planning process is the input from stakeholders from across the State. At this time, the Division is receiving and reviewing the County Work First Plans from each of the 100 county departments of social services. Nine counties have designated their desire to be Electing counties. They are: Beaufort, Caldwell, Catawba, Cumberland, Iredell, Lenoir, Lincoln, Macon and Wilson. Once reviewed and approved for recommendation to the General Assembly, these Electing county plans will be summarized in the State TANF Plan.

In the meantime, we will be reviewing the current <u>State TANF Plan</u> and considering any changes deemed necessary and advisable. We will then begin drafting the section of the State TANF Plan for Standard counties. In this process, we are requesting your input for any changes that you would suggest for us to consider. It is through the partnership with the county departments of social services and stakeholders from other state and community agencies that is crucial in shaping the delivery of services for this State TANF Plan and any programmatic changes that will assist the State in serving Work First families and meeting the mandatory Work Participation Rates, while maintaining a family-centered approach in our service delivery.

Please review the current State TANF Plan for North Carolina at: http://www.ncdhhs.gov/dss/workfirst/docs/TANF StatePlan 1007.pdf and submit any recommendations that you would like to be considered by Close of Business on Wednesday, November 26, 2008, to:

Sara Mims, Assistant Chief Economic and Family Services Section 325 N. Salisbury Street Mail Service Center 2420 Raleigh, NC 27699-2420 or Sara.Mims@ncmail.net Please contact Sara Mims at (919) 334-1102 should you have any questions regarding this request.

Sincerely,

Dean Simpson, Chief

Dean Lingson

Economic and Family Services Section

EFS-10-2008

cc: Sherry Bradsher

Hank Bowers Sarah Barham Charisse Johnson

Barry Miller

Adonica Hampton David Locklear

Local Business Liaisons Work First Representatives