August 09, 2021

DEAR COUNTY DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES

ATTENTION: CHILDREN’S SERVICES SUPERVISORS, PROGRAM ADMINISTRATORS, AND PROGRAM MANAGERS

SUBJECT: CORONAVIRUS AID, RELIEF, AND ECONOMIC SECURITY (CARES) ACT FUNDING, PUBLIC LAW 116-136

REQUIRED ACTION: ☐ Information Only ☐ Time Sensitive ☒ Immediate

PURPOSE: TO PROVIDE INSTRUCTION ON THE EXPENDITURE OF CARES ACT FUNDS

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act was enacted on March 27, 2021 and provides emergency funding to respond to COVID-19. It is designed to support child welfare agencies in the prevention, preparation, and response to the needs of children and families impacted by the child welfare system and the coronavirus pandemic. North Carolina was awarded the supplemental funds by Administration for Children and Families (ACF) on April 23, 2020. The use of the county allocated funds must be for expenses obligated or paid by September 30, 2021. The CARES Act funds must be tracked separately on the attached form to ensure compliance with requirements and allowable expenses.

Each county social service agency has been awarded a portion of this supplemental funding based on the population of children in foster care. Please see the funding allocation sheet attached. These funds must be used to ensure the safety, permanency, and wellbeing of children and families involved in the child welfare during the coronavirus pandemic. Funds can be used to replace county only expenditures not claimed for reimbursement to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19 prior to the effective date of the award, beginning January 20, 2020. A spreadsheet to document these expenditures is attached and should be completed and returned to Lechelle Evans at Lechelle.evans@dhhs.nc.gov by October 4, 2021.

Please find a fact sheet attached with a list of approved allowable expenses. Funding can be used for any allowable expenses outlined in Title IV-B, Subpart 1, Section 421 of the Act. If you have any questions, contact your Regional Child Welfare Consultant. This information can be found at https://www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/social-

The guidance attached is offered as a resource in responding to the aforementioned situations. If you have any questions, contact your Regional Child Welfare Consultant and include your local support manager. This information can be found at https://www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/social-

NC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES • DIVISION OF SOCIAL SERVICES
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AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY / AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER
Sincerely,

Lisa Cauley, Senior Director
Child, Family and Adult Services

Attachments: Funding Allocation Scenarios
CARES Act Fact Sheet
Funding Allocation Scenarios
2021 CARES Act IV-B1 Exp Sum Form

cc: Susan G. Osborne, Assistant Secretary for County Operations
   Richard Stegenga, Deputy Director DSS Business Operations
   Kathy Stone, Section Chief for Child Protective Services and Prevention
   Carla McNeill, Section Chief for Permanency Planning
   Teresa Strom, Section Chief for County Operations
   Linda Waite, Section Chief for Regulatory and Licensing

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