



NC DEPARTMENT OF  
**HEALTH AND  
HUMAN SERVICES**

ROY COOPER • Governor

KODY H. KINSLEY • Secretary

SUSAN OSBORNE • Assistant Secretary for County Operations for  
Human Services

January 24, 2022

**DEAR COUNTY DIRECTORS OF SOCIAL SERVICES**

**ATTENTION: DIRECTORS, CHILD WELFARE PROGRAM ADMINISTRATORS, MANAGERS,  
SUPERVISORS, AND SOCIAL WORKERS**

**SUBJECT: CHILD MEDICAL EVALUATION PROGRAM**

**REQUIRED ACTION:**  Information Only

**PURPOSE: CHANGES TO CHILD MEDICAL EVALUATION PROGRAM**

As a part of our continuing efforts to provide resources to local child welfare agencies that improve safety outcomes for children and families, NC DSS, and the Child Medical Evaluation Program (CMEP) have partnered to provide a new clinical resource: Clinical Assessment of Protective Parenting (CAPP).

This assessment is driven by empirically supported measures in understanding a parent's ability and willingness to mitigate safety risks for their child. The objectives of this evaluation are two-fold: to offer a clinical lens through which to assess the current risk and potential of future harm that a caretaker may pose to a child, and to assist in identifying services that will enhance a parent's capacity to provide for their child's needs. The ideal candidates for this evaluation are parents for whom CPS needs to better understand their potential for creating risk or posing harm to their child, before making a case decision.

CMEP will offer a limited launch of this parent-focused evaluation beginning in Spring 2022. More information regarding the evaluation and state-wide implementation will be released at that time.

CMEP is responsible for two clinical consultations available to all child welfare agencies – the Child Medical Evaluation (CME) and the Child and Family Evaluation (CFE). The CAPP will replace the CFE, which will be phased out by the beginning of FY 2023. CFEs are a service provided by CMEP through NC DSS funding. CAPPs will also be funded through NC DSS and provided at no cost to the county or family. This change will have no impact on the provision of CMEs.

**NC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES • DIVISION OF SOCIAL SERVICES**

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AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY / AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER

Should you have any questions regarding the Clinical Assessment of Protective Parenting, please contact Kathy Stone at [Kathy.Stone@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:Kathy.Stone@dhhs.nc.gov).

Sincerely,

*Kathy P Stone*

Kathy Stone, MSW  
Section Chief for Safety and Prevention  
North Carolina Division of Social Services

Cc: Susan Osborne, Assistant Secretary for County Operations  
Lisa Cauley, Senior Director of Child, Family and Adult Services  
Teresa Strom, Section Chief for County Operations  
Carla McNeill Section Chief for Permanency  
Linda Waite, Section Chief for Licensing and Regulatory

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