



NC DEPARTMENT OF
**HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**
Division of Social Services

ROY COOPER • Governor

KODY H. KINSLEY • Secretary

SUSAN OSBORNE • Assistant Secretary for County Operations
for Human Services

February 2, 2022

DEAR COUNTY DIRECTORS OF SOCIAL SERVICES

ATTENTION: DIRECTORS, CHILD WELFARE PROGRAM ADMINISTRATORS, BUDGET OFFICERS

SUBJECT: SFY 2022 Funding Allocation for IV-B, Subpart 2 Family Reunification Services

REQUIRED ACTION: Immediate

This letter is to officially inform counties that their SFY 2022 allocation of IV-B2 funds for family reunification services will be equal to their SFY 2021 allocation and to the budget estimate that they received last spring. A list of those allocations is attached.

Entry of the allocations for IV-B2 into the financial system was delayed this year, resulting in some counties drawing down IV-B2 funds in excess of both their allocations and the budget estimates received. When the allocations are entered into the system later this month, expenditures that exceeded a county's allocation will revert to all-county funding. We regret any confusion this has caused.

We also want to alert you to expect that allocations of IV-B2 funds for family reunification will decrease substantially in SFY 2023 and again in SFY 2024 to better align with North Carolina's IV-B2 allocation from the federal government. DHHS is using one-time pandemic funding in SFY 2022 to maintain county allocations at their SFY 2021 levels and to honor the budget estimates distributed to counties in the spring.

Finally, we want to take this opportunity to remind counties of the federal limitations on the uses of this funding. Family Reunification Funds are made available to states through Title IV-B, subpart 2 of the Social Security Act to provide or purchase services to facilitate safe reunification for children in foster care. Services can be provided while children are in foster care and for up to 15 months after custody has been returned. Title IV-B2 specifies the services for which these funds can be used:

- (i) Individual, group, and family counseling.
- (ii) Inpatient, residential, or outpatient substance abuse treatment services.
- (iii) Mental health services.
- (iv) Assistance to address domestic violence.

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LOCATION: 820 S. Boylan Avenue, McBryde Building, Raleigh, NC 27603
MAILING ADDRESS: 2409 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-2409
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(v) Services designed to provide temporary childcare and therapeutic services for families, including crisis nurseries.

(vi) Peer-to-peer mentoring and support groups for parents and primary caregivers.

(vii) Services and activities designed to facilitate access to and visitation of children by parents and siblings.

(viii) Transportation to or from any of the services and activities described in this subparagraph.

Case management activities by the child's foster care worker and other activities or services not listed above are not eligible for reimbursement under this grant. Funds cannot be used to pay for services if children are not in the legal custody of the county or have not been in the county's legal custody in the previous 15 months.

If you have any questions, please contact your Regional Child Welfare Consultant.

<https://www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/social-services/county-staff-information/local-support-staff-schedules/regional-child-welfare-consultants>

Sincerely,



Lisa T. Cauley, MSW
Senior Director of Child, Family, and Adult Services
North Carolina Division of Social Services

Cc: Susan Osborne, Assistant Secretary for County Operations
Richard Stegenga, Deputy Director, Business Operations
Kathy Stone, Section Chief for Safety and Prevention
Teresa Strom, Section Chief for County Operations
Carla McNeill, Section Chief for Permanency
Linda Waite, Section Chief for Licensing and Regulatory

Attachment: 2022 Family Reunification Budget Allocations

CWS-07-2022

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