



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

325 North Salisbury Street • 2410 Mail Service Center • Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-2410
Courier # 2410

Michael F. Easley, Governor
Carmen Hooker Buell, Secretary

Pheon E. Beal, Director
(919) 733-3055

July 18, 2001

Dear County Director of Social Services

**Attention: Children's Services Supervisors
Children's Services Staff**

Subject: Intensive Family Preservation Services (IFPS)

Effective Immediately

North Carolina's Intensive Family Preservation Service (IFPS) Program, as established in legislation (GS 143B-150.5), is a short-term, intensive, crisis-intervention program with services provided primarily in the family's home or community. The purpose of the Program is, where feasible and in the best interest of the child and family, to keep the family unit intact by providing intensive family centered services that help create positive long-term changes in the home environment. We now have state-funded Intensive Family Preservation Services in 59 counties and the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians.

The policies and procedures for the Program have recently been revised to encompass the existing IFPS and the IFPS Expansion programs. These revisions include referral standards to meet the legislative requirement that *"the revised IFPS Program shall ensure the application of standardized assessment criteria for determining imminent risk and clear criteria for determining out-of-home placement."*

The Policies and Procedures are online at:

<http://childrensservices.dhhs.state.nc.us/resourcedevelopment/index.htm>

The document is titled 'IFPS Policies and Procedures: Effective April 2001

As part of the application process for Intensive Family Preservation Services, it is now a requirement that all county DSS referrals for these services must include a copy of

- 1. Report to Central Registry Form, DSS-5104**
- 2. Services Information System: Client Entry Form, DSS-5027**
- 3. Risk Assessment, DSS-5149.**

Dear County Director

Please ensure that all Child Welfare staff are informed of and comply with this requirement.

In addition to the recent changes in IFPS Policies and Procedures, other issues related to IFPS have received attention from the General Assembly and the Federal Child and Family Services Review. In the course of developing a Program Improvement Plan in response to the Federal Review, and as a result of Special Provisions proposed in the current state budget, the Division has identified three primary issues related to IFPS that need to be addressed:

1. Access to IFPS service by minorities (*the population served by IFPS should reflect the client population involved with Child Protective Services in that county*).
2. The need for strategies to extend the impact of IFPS services (*Evaluation of IFPS programs indicate a high rate of success in keeping children out of placement, but this treatment appears to weaken over time without appropriate follow-up services*).
3. Improvement of the connection between IFPS programs and achievement of academic success (*academic success has received increasing emphasis from the General Assembly and identified as an area where North Carolina was "not in substantial conformity" in the Federal Child and Family Services Review*).

Feedback from county DSS Directors is needed to help the Division develop a plan focusing on the above concerns. These issues will be discussed in upcoming meetings and we look forward to your input.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation with the IFPS requirements for DSS referrals. Attached is a list of IFPS Programs funded by the NC Division of Social Services. If you have any questions, please contact Sonya Toman, Team Leader for the Resource Development Team, Community-Based Programs at (919) 733-2279.

Sincerely,



Charles C. Harris, Chief
Children's Services

cc: Pheon Beal
Nancy Coston
Children's Services Team Leaders
Children's Services Programs representatives

Attachment

CS-13-2001

Intensive Family Preservation Services Programs

COUNTY	AGENCY
Alexander	Foothills Area Programs Attn: Jim Hamilton PO Box 669 Marion, NC 28752 (828) 652-5444
Brunswick, Chatham, New Hanover, Pitt, Scotland, Wake, Wayne, Wilson	Methodist Home for Children Attn: Marci White PO Box 10917 Raleigh, NC 27605 (919) 833-2834
Buncombe	Blue Ridge Area MH/DD/SAS Attn: Meredith Moore-Comer 257 Biltmore Ave Asheville, NC 28802 (828) 258-2597
Buncombe	Buncombe County DSS Attn: Becky Kessell PO Box 7408 Asheville, NC 28802 (828) 250-5523
Burke/Caldwell	ASU/Home Remedies-Bringing It All Back Home Attn: Brenda Caldwell 204 Avery Ave. Morganton, NC 28655 (828) 433-7187
Cabarrus	Cabarrus County DSS Attn: Cathy Rucker 1303 S. Cannon Blvd. Kannanopolis, NC 28083 (704) 939-1523
Cabarrus	Piedmont Behavioral Health Care Attn: Revella Nesbitt 1305 S. Cannon Blvd Kannapolis, NC 28083 (704) 939-1151
Catawba	Catawba County DSS Attn: Charlotte Rorie PO Box 669 Newton, NC 28658 (828) 465-8450
Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Jackson, Macon	Mountain Youth Resources, Inc. Attn: Terry Beckner PO Box 428 Sylva, NC 28779 (828) 586-8958
Cleveland	Cleveland County DSS Attn: Kim Reel 130 S. Post Road – Drawer 9006 Shelby, NC 28152 (704) 487-0661

Intensive Family Preservation Services Programs

COUNTY	AGENCY
Cumberland	Cumberland County MH/DD/SAS Attn: PO Box 3069 Fayetteville, NC 28645 (910) 321-0510
Forsyth	Exchange Club Child Abuse Prevention Center Attn: George W. Bryan, Jr. 500 W. Northwest Blvd. Winston-Salem, NC 27105 (336) 607-9028
Forsyth / Stokes	CenterPointe MH Attn: Gerald Allen 836 Oak Street; Suite 100 Winston-Salem, NC 27101 (336) 607-8601
Gaston	Gaston County DSS Attn: Penny Plyer 330 N. Marietta St Gastonia, NC 28052 (704) 862-7989
Guilford	Family Services of the Piedmont Attn: Chris Faulkner 315 E. Washington Street Greensboro, NC 27401 (336) 387-6161
Haywood, Jackson, Swain, EBCI	Smokey Mountain Counseling Center Attn: Terri Hager 1207 East Street Waynesville, NC 28786 (828) 452-0680
Johnston	Methodist Home for Children Attn: Norma Richardson PO Box 10917 Raleigh, NC 27605 (919) 833-2834
McDowell Caldwell	Foothills Area Program Attn: Jim Hamilton PO Box 669 Marion, NC 28752 (828) 652-5444
Mecklenburg	Youth Homes, Inc. Attn: Valeria Iseah 500 E. Morehead Street; Suite 120 Charlotte, NC 28202 (704) 334-9955

Intensive Family Preservation Services Programs

COUNTY	AGENCY
Northampton Halifax	Choanoke Area Development Assoc., Inc. Attn: Joyce Scott PO Box 530 Rich Square, NC 27869 (252) 537-9304
Person	Family Connections Attn: April Duckworth 304 S. Morgan Street; Room 111 Roxboro, NC 27573 (336) 597-1746
Richmond	Sandhills Center for MH/DD/SAS Attn: Opal Sherva PO Box 631 Rockingham, NC 28379 (910) 895-2462
Robeson	Methodist Home for Children Attn: Sherrod Gresham PO Box 10917 Raleigh, NC 27605 (919) 833-2834
Rowan	Piedmont Behavioral Healthcare Attn: Stephen Elliott 1807 East Innes Street Salisbury, NC 28146 (704) 633-3616
Rutherford	ASU/BIABH Attn: Gary Timbers/Patrice White 204 Avery Ave. Morganton, NC 28655 (828) 433-7187
Wilkes	Rainbow Center, Inc. Attn: Glenda Andrews PO Box 1194 N. Wilkesboro, NC 28659 (336) 667-3333
<u>Region 9</u> Bertie, Camden, Chowan, Currituck, Edgecombe, Gates, Hertford, Martin, Nash, Northampton, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Pitt	Martin County Community Action, Inc. Attn: Reginald Speight PO Box 806 314 S. Ray Street Williamston, NC 27892
<u>Region 10</u> Beaufort, Carteret, Crave, Dare, Hyde, Jones, Lenoir, Onslow, Pamlico, Tyrrell, Washington	Methodist Home for Children Attn: John Gimore-Cronin PO Box 10917 Raleigh, NC 27605 (919) 833-2834