



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

325 North Salisbury Street • Raleigh, North Carolina 27699  
Courier # 56-20-25 MSC 2439

Beverly Eaves Perdue, Governor  
Lanier M. Cansler, Secretary

Sherry S. Bradsher, Director  
(919) 733-3055

**December 22, 2010**

**DEAR COUNTY DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES**

**ATTENTION: CHILD WELFARE PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR, PROGRAM MANAGER, OR SUPERVISOR**

**SUBJECT: OPPORTUNITY TO IMPACT MRS EVALUATION**

In the past year, the Division has been asked to respond to concerns expressed about a potential link between the implementation of North Carolina's Multiple Response System (MRS), the number of juvenile petitions filed by child welfare agencies across jurisdictions and any impact these two variables may have on child safety. To address these concerns, the Division has contracted with Duke's Center for Child and Family Policy (CCFP) to develop an evaluation which will explore whether or not such a link exists and to identify other possible trends. This fiscal year's MRS evaluation is focusing on the analysis of both court and child welfare administrative data and the collection of new data that will help to shed light on this issue and that may be used to assist in the formulation of policy recommendations.

As one part of the MRS evaluation, CCFP is requesting county feedback using a web-based survey tool. The responses will help shape the direction of the current evaluation and aid CCFP in selecting counties for inclusion in additional data collection activities scheduled to begin early next year. The survey is confidential and only the researchers at CCFP will see your responses.

**Each county is requested to provide a single response to the survey. Researchers prefer that the child welfare Program Administrator or Manager serve as the primary respondent. However, if such a position does not exist within your organizational structure, a child welfare supervisor would also be appropriate. Otherwise, it may be, that the most suitable respondent is the Director.**

The survey, which can be accessed at <http://tinyurl.com/2dzputz>, consists of 20 brief items and should take no more than 10-15 minutes to complete. The survey is open now and will close **January 10, 2011**. Please take a few minutes and provide your feedback.

Questions, concerns or any technical difficulties may be directed to Nicole Lawrence at Duke's CCFP at 919-668-3282 or [nicole.lawrence@duke.edu](mailto:nicole.lawrence@duke.edu).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kevin Kelley".

Kevin Kelley, Interim Chief  
Child Welfare Services

**CWS-28-10**