



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

325 North Salisbury Street • Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-2410
Courier # 56-20-25-MS# 2410

Beverly Eaves Perdue, Governor
Lanier M. Cansler, Secretary

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

August 31, 2009

DEAR COUNTY DIRECTORS OF SOCIAL SERVICES

**ATTENTION: CHILD WELFARE SERVICES PROGRAM ADMINISTRATORS, MANAGERS,
SUPERVISORS AND STAFF**

**SUBJECT: CITIZEN REVIEW PANEL STRUCTURE FOR NORTH CAROLINA ON-LINE
SOCIAL WORKER SURVEY**

The North Carolina Division of Social Services is partnering with Prevent Child Abuse North Carolina (PCANC) to lead a planning process for developing Citizen Review Panels (CRP) in compliance with the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA). CAPTA mandates every state to establish at least three CRPs that are charged with evaluating the extent to which the state is effectively fulfilling its child protection responsibilities in accordance with the CAPTA State Plan.

To ensure that North Carolina is fully meeting the requirements of the CAPTA legislation, the Division has asked PCANC to lead a comprehensive assessment process of its current efforts to meet this federal mandate and to make recommendations for developing a Citizen Review Panel structure for North Carolina. We expect that the outcome of the year-long planning process will be recommendations for a Citizen Review Panel structure that meets federal CAPTA requirements; improves the permanency, safety, and well-being of children who enter the state's child protection system; and increases citizen participation in the child protection system. PCANC will be contacting County Directors of Social Services, Community Child Protection Team members, Child Fatality Review Team Members and others in the next few months to begin the process. The current Community Child Protection Regional Teams will serve as a resource for PCANC to understand the work being done in the regions and to assist PCANC in developing the CRP structure. PCANC will also develop an Advisory Committee to help guide its efforts.

If you have any questions, please contact Kristin O'Connor, Community Based Programs Administrator, at Kristin.oconnor@ncmail.net or Phyllis Fulton, CCPT Coordinator, at Phyllis.fulton@dhhs.nc.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Charisse S. Johnson".

Charisse S. Johnson, Chief
Child Welfare Services

cc: Sherry S. Bradsher
Jack Rogers
Sarah Barham
Child Welfare Services Team Leaders
Children's Services Program Representatives
Regulatory and Licensing Services Consultants

CWS-30-09