



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

325 North Salisbury Street • Raleigh, North Carolina 27603
Courier # 56-20-25

James B. Hunt, Jr., Governor
Director
H. David Bruton, M.D., Secretary

Kevin M. FitzGerald,
(919) 733-3055

September 1, 1999

Dear County Director in IV-E Waiver Counties

Attention: All Child Welfare Staff

Dear Director of Social Services:

You will not want to miss the opportunity to use a new service available to you **free of charge**. The Division of Social Services has contracted with Carolina 1 Source, a consortium of child caring agencies, to provide clinical assessments for families you refer to them. This service was developed as a response to your concerns that you often have difficulty getting children and families evaluated in your community through area mental health and other assessment resources in a reasonable time frame for the evaluation to be useful to you in making important decisions with these families.

The intake process with Carolina 1 Source is designed to be simple, comprehensive and time efficient. Your staff makes a toll free phone call to the intake office in Charlotte. The number is **1 877 439-1801**. You report case specific information to the intake coordinator. Usually you will speak with Amy Kohls, the director of the service. Should you hear a recording, be sure to leave a message. These people return calls very quickly. The intake coordinator will ask you to fax information relevant to the case, such as the latest risk assessment. An assessment specialist will contact your worker within 24 hours and will arrange to come to your county and meet with you, the family and other involved parties. A mutually agreed upon time frame will be established for completing the evaluation or assessment. Once the assessment is completed, the specialist will meet with your team or your worker to discuss the assessment and any follow-up service recommendations. You will also receive a written report of the assessment.

Please distribute copies of this letter to all of your child welfare services staff !

It is our hope that you will utilize this specialized clinical service to assist you in making important case decisions at any point in the continuum of child welfare services. We envision that this service would be particularly useful for your staff immediately following a substantiation, during the development of the family services case plan, or as an adjunct to planning a change in status for a child who is in your custody.

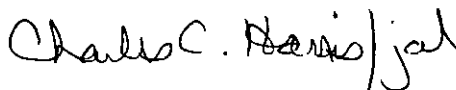
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This assessment and evaluation service is available only to IV-E Waiver counties in an effort to bolster your efforts toward system reform, to assist in providing safety to children and timely permanence for them, and as a point of contact between public social services and private service providers. Several waiver counties have already had assessments completed for their families. The service is available on a first come, first served basis to waiver counties. Continuation of this contract with Carolina 1 Source will be highly dependent on the use you make of the services and the satisfaction you derive from it.

If you would like to have Carolina 1 Source meet with any or all of your workers and supervisors to further introduce the service, please contact Amy Kohls, Carolina 1 Source, P. O. Box 221202, Charlotte, NC 28222, phone toll free at 1 877 439-1801.

Please share any feedback you have about this program with Sandra Sink, IV-E Waiver Demonstration Coordinator at 919 733-5125.

Sincerely,



Charles C. Harris, Chief
Children's' Services Section