



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

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Michael F. Easley, Governor
Carmen Hooker Odom, Secretary

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

July 06, 2006

Dear County Director of Social Services

Attention: Children's Services Managers and Supervisors

Subject: Multiple Response System Database

Now that MRS has been implemented statewide, it is important that we are able to demonstrate the implementation of MRS principles and strategies in order to refine our practice and advocate to the General Assembly. The Multiple Response System Database allows The Center for Child and Family Policy at Duke University to conduct a more thorough evaluation of statewide implementation of MRS. One way that we can do this is by reporting in the Multiple Response Database.

We acknowledge that entering this data has been an evolving process and programming is now in process to omit items that are not necessary for our evaluation efforts. We will notify counties as changes to the MRS database are moved into production. We have reviewed the current data elements with the Services to Children and Families Committee.

Reporting in this database will be mandatory for all counties for both family and investigative assessments that are initiated after July 15, 2006; however, the third wave of 48 counties will not be responsible for entering into the database until they have attended training. In addition, the MRS database will be put into the Client Services Data Warehouse later this year, allowing counties to create their own queries regarding their practice.

During the Spring of 2005 the first two waves of 52 counties were trained on the use of the MRS database. The Division is currently scheduling trainings for the remaining 48 counties. Training will take approximately an hour and a half, and information regarding the training will be disseminated through the MRS listserve and the MRS evaluation listserve. At this time we have scheduled 3 days of training in the central and eastern areas. There will be at least one session in the western region, however, at this time there is no date or time confirmed. The dates and times scheduled are as follows:

Monday July 10th Raleigh Session 1 - 10 to 11:30, Session 2 - 12:30 to 2pm
Tuesday July 11th Everetts (Martin County) Session 1 - 10 to 11:30, Session 2 - 12:30 to 2pm
Monday July 24th Everetts (Martin County) Session 1 - 10 to 11:30

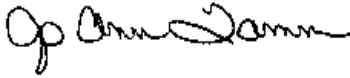
Each county may send two people to the MRS database training. If you would like to send additional people, please let Heather Bohanan know when you register for training. The MRS database system is web based and is designed for social workers to enter the data themselves; however, some counties have chosen to complete paper forms (DSS-5106) and have data entry personnel enter the data. Therefore, you may want to send both a social worker and a data

entry person to the training and afterwards determine which method of entry will work best in your county. If your county has already received training regarding the MRS database but would like to send someone to the training for a refresher, or due to staff turnover, you are welcome to do so.

A copy of the DSS-5106 (paper version of the database) and a Users Guide for the Manual is available on line at: <http://www.dhhs.state.nc.us/dss/mrs/index.htm>

For more information on the training please contact Heather Bohanan at 919-733-7831 or Heather.Bohanan@ncmail.net.

Sincerely,



Jo Ann Lamm, Chief
Family Support and
Child Welfare Services Section
Section



Hank Bowers, Chief
Performance Management,
Reporting and Evaluation Management

CC: Sherry Bradsher
Sarah Barham
Family Support and Child Welfare Services Team Leaders
Children's Program Representatives
Work First Representatives

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