



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

325 North Salisbury Street • 2407 Mail Service Center • Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-2407
Courier # 56-20-25

Michael F. Easley, Governor
Carmen Hooker Odom, Secretary

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

October 10, 2005

DEAR COUNTY DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES

ATTENTION: CHILD WELFARE SUPERVISORS

SUBJECT: CHANGE IN THE CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES REVIEW INSTRUMENT

The Division began a new Biennium for the Child and Family Services Reviews on July 1, 2005. At that time, North Carolina's Child and Family Services review instrument, instructions and protocol remained unchanged, with the exception of Table 1, Data on Reports of Child Abuse and Neglect, in the Child and Family Services Review Report. A Dear County Director letter was sent on June 9, 2005 to inform your agency of this change.

Upon recent review of the Child and Family Services Review instrument, we have made a few changes to the instructions for the reviewers to help bring clarity and consistency in providing interpretation for several areas that deal with permanency for children and to reflect state law regarding Termination of Parental Rights (TPR) and requirements for noting exceptions to TPR in court orders. As you participate in the review process by partnering with our Program Review Team during the Child and Family Services Reviews, we feel that you need to be aware of these changes in instructions in the Child and Family Services Review instrument in Section II: Permanency, on page 19 (Item 7. Permanency Goal for Children), page 23 (Item 9. Permanency Goal of Adoption) and page 25 (Item 10. Permanency Goal of Other Planned Living Arrangement). Please be aware that no changes were made to the questions on the instrument, only changes for clarity purposes to help reviewers to better evaluate how to rate the above referenced items on the instrument.

The pages related to the items are attached to this Dear County Director letter with changes highlighted in red. These changes will be effective immediately. Please be aware that additional changes to the Child and Family Review instrument, instructions and protocol may be forthcoming, pending notification of any changes in the Federal Child and Family Services Review instrument, instructions and protocol.

If you have questions regarding the changes in the Child and Family Services Review instrument, please contact Beverly Daniel at (919) 733-9461.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jo Ann Lamm".

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

Attachment

cc: Pheon Beal
Sherry Bradsher
Sarah Barham
Local Business Liaisons
Children's Programs Representatives
Family Support and Child Welfare Services Team Leaders

FSCWS-45-05