



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

325 North Salisbury Street • Raleigh, North Carolina 27603
Courier # 56-20-25 MSC 2409

Michael F. Easley, Governor
Dempsey Benton, Secretary

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

August 15, 2008

DEAR COUNTY DIRECTORS OF SOCIAL SERVICES

ATTENTION: Child Welfare Administrators, Supervisors, and Staff

Re: MRS FACT SHEETS AND THE MRS LEARNING INSTITUTE

The Division would like to sincerely thank you and your staff for the work you have done to facilitate the statutorily required evaluation of MRS. Recognizing that entering this data requires extra work on the part of you and your staff, this evaluation remains important in responding to the General Assembly's request for a report on the efficacy of MRS. The collection of this informative data continues to be required through the use of the MRS Tracking Form ([DSS-5106](#)), and the Division continues to encourage the use of this data at the local level, now that MRS related data is available in the Data Warehouse.

As one of the evaluation deliverables for FY 2007-2008, Duke committed to creating county level Fact Sheets that provide valuable information on a number of key measures associated with MRS implementation. These Fact Sheets are now complete. Some of the findings are encouraging while other findings highlight areas for improvement. The Division would like an opportunity to share the results with you and answer any questions you may have before the fact sheets become public as part of the evaluation as a whole. The Fact Sheets will be posted to the MRS Section of the Division's website (<http://www.ncdhhs.gov/dss/mrs>) on Monday, September 1, 2008.

Attached to both the hard copy and electronic copy of this letter is the Fact Sheets for your agency. The 2008 MRS Learning Institute being held August 18-20, 2008 at the Joseph S. Koury Convention Center in Greensboro provides a unique opportunity for you or your staff to meet with our partners at Duke to review the measures on the Fact Sheets. Anyone from your staff attending the Institute will have an opportunity to sign up for a 20 minute consultation with Research staff from Duke to specifically discuss the information from your Fact Sheet. Research staff from Duke will be available **August 19, 2008 from 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., and August 20, 2008 from 10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.** The Division hopes that you will take advantage of this opportunity to learn from the data that has been collected and that you will find the opportunity to discuss the results with our partners from Duke to be helpful as you continue to further your implementation of MRS strategies using the Principles of Partnership, and System Of Care values in your agencies.

Sincerely,

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

Charisse Johnson, Chief
Family Support and Child Welfare Services

Cc:
Sherry Bradsher
JoAnn Lamm
Sarah Barham
Hank Bowers
Family Support and Child Welfare Team Leaders
Children's Programs Representatives
The Center for Child and Family Policy, Terry Sanford Institute, Duke University

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