



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

Pat McCrory
Governor

Aldona Z. Wos, M.D.
Ambassador (Ret.)
Secretary DHHS

Wayne E. Black
Division Director

September 26, 2014

Dear County Directors of Social Services:

Included in the State Budget (SB 744) for State Fiscal Year 2014-2015 are new funding allocations to local county departments of social services for child protective services. This funding is recurring. The NC Division of Social Services (NCDSS) has worked closely with the leadership of the North Carolina Association of County Directors of Social Services (NCACDSS) to establish appropriate methodologies for allocating these funds to the counties in accordance with the intent of the legislation. Codes are currently being set up for these allocations and you should receive them in time to code October expenditures, reimbursed in November. Below is a description of the new appropriations and criteria for allocating funds to counties.

Child Protective Services \$7,369,970

Provides funding to replace \$4.5 million in federal block grant funds that counties lost in FY 2013-14 that was utilized to pay for Child Protective Services (CPS) workers. An additional \$2.8 million in funding is provided effective October 1, 2014 to reduce county departments of social services caseloads to an average of 10 families per worker performing Child Protective Services assessments. Combined with other Child Protective Services expansion, the General Fund appropriation for Child Protective Services is increased by 100% to \$26 million, SB 744.

There will be two separate allocations for distributing these funds. The \$4.5 million replaces TANF Child Welfare Worker funds lost in the State 2013-15 biennium budget. The \$2,869,970 will be allocated as described by the N.C. General Assembly to reduce caseloads to an average of 10 families per worker. The NC DSS and NCACDSS are in the process of determining the criteria for allocating these funds. We anticipate that counties will receive an additional \$956,657 to total an annualized amount of \$3,826,627 beginning fiscal year 2015-2016.

Child Welfare In-Home Expansion \$4,500,000

Increases General Fund appropriation for Child Welfare In-Home Services. In-Home Services are provided to maintain the safety of the child while helping the parent/caretaker learn more effective parenting practices. In-Home Services provide, arrange for, and coordinate interventions and services, as needed that focus on child safety and protection, family preservation, and the prevention of further abuse or neglect. Combined with other Child Protective Services items, the General Fund appropriation for Child Protective Services is increased by 100% to \$26 million, SB 744.

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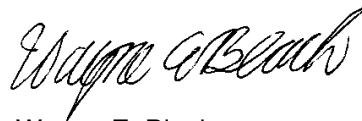
These funds will be allocated based equally using four criteria:

1. Population of children 18 and under in each county, Source: U.S. Census Bureau 2008-2012 American Community Survey 5-year Estimate
2. In-Home services cases that were closed within 180 days or less in calendar year 2013
3. CPS assessments and investigations completed in calendar year 2013
4. CPS reports received in calendar year 2013

Further information and instructions for coding will be provided in a separate communication from the DHHS Office of the Controller.

If you have any questions, please contact your Local Business Liaison.

Sincerely,



Wayne E. Black



Kathy Sommese, Business Director