



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

325 North Salisbury Street • Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-2408 • Courier # 56-20-25-MS# 2408

Michael F. Easley, Governor
Dempsey Benton, Secretary

Sherry Bradsher, Director
(919) 733-3055

September 27, 2007

Dear County Director of Social Services

Subject: LONGSCAN Project

Attention: Foster Care Managers, Supervisors, and Social Workers

The Longitudinal Study of Child Abuse and Neglect (LONGSCAN) is a study investigating the predictors and consequences of child maltreatment, funded by the United States Department of Health and Human Services' Administration for Children and Families (ACF). Complete description of this study can be found in the attached document, "LONGSCAN Program Overview."

We are requesting your continued collaboration with the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill, School of Public Health. Without your assistance, we would be unable to continue the progress we have made thus far. Your assistance helps us reach a goal we all share, which is to better the lives of children and their families.

This wave of review, as before, is intended to determine the nature of reported incidents and services received by participant families. In addition to the previous focus on victimization history of the children in the study, this round will also focus on any history of participants as perpetrators of maltreatment.

Protecting the confidentiality of all participants and all data collected is of utmost concern to us. This research has continuing approval and oversight from the Public Health Institutional Review Board (IRB) of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

In order to complete this phase of the study, staff from the School of Public Health will be traveling to each identified county to abstract the records of each LONGSCAN participant. Please note all of the named clients are study subjects whose parents have given formal written consent for their children to participate (sample consent form attached). Besides expediting the process, having the records available ahead of time protects the privacy of other cases in the files and minimizes the intrusion that will result from this visit.

To this end, we ask that county staff pull all of the records of participants in advance and to please set aside office space for LONGSCAN's staff use. No other personnel time or investment of material resources is needed.

Allow me to thank you in advance for your cooperation and assistance with this phase of the project. We look forward to another successful wave of case record reviews. Staff from the LONGSCAN project will be in touch with you soon to set a date and time for their visit. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this request please do not hesitate to contact Jane Seo at (919) 733-4530.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Hank Bowers".

Hank Bowers, Section Chief
Performance Mangement/Reporting & Evaluation Management

PM-REM 07-2007

Attachment 1: LONGSCAN Program Overview

Attachment 2: LONGSCAN Consent Form

CC: Joann Lamm
Sara Mims
Team Leaders
CPRs