November 30, 2009

DEAR COUNTY DIRECTORS OF SOCIAL SERVICES

ATTENTION: CHILDREN’S SERVICES SUPERVISORS
        CHILDREN’S SERVICES SOCIAL WORKERS

SUBJECT: INTERSTATE COMPACT ON THE PLACEMENT OF CHILDREN (ICPC)
        PROGRESS REPORTING

The purpose of this letter is to emphasize the necessity of progress reports as it relates to achieving permanency for children in cases involving the Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children (ICPC).

Public Law 109-239, which can be viewed by accessing the following link: http://icpc.aphsa.org/Home/home_news.asp, requires that in-state and out-of-state placement are options in permanency hearings. Furthermore, if a child is already in an out-of-state placement, the permanency hearing must determine if the placement continues to be appropriate and in the child’s best interest. ICPC policy further indicates that throughout the child’s placement in another state, progress reports are to be submitted by the sending agency to the North Carolina ICPC office in accordance with the frequency requested on the ICPC Form 100-A. Reports should include a clear statement that the sending agency must retain jurisdiction, unless or until the time a recommendation for transfer of legal custody to the placement resource or termination of jurisdiction is appropriate.

Agencies experiencing difficulty obtaining progress reports for out-of-state placements made through the North Carolina ICPC office should contact Carla McNeill at (919) 334-1105, or by email at Carla.Mcneill@dhhs.nc.gov, or the county ICPC consultant.

Sincerely,

Charisse S. Johnson, Chief
Child Welfare Services

cc: Sherry S. Bradsher
    Sarah Barham
    Child Welfare Services Team Leaders
    Children’s Services Program Representatives
    Local Business Liaisons
    Regulatory and Licensing Services Consultants
    Jack Rogers