



NC DEPARTMENT OF
**HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**
Division of Social Services

ROY COOPER • Governor

MANDY COHEN, MD, MPH • Secretary

SUSAN OSBORNE • Assistant Secretary for County Operations

April 15, 2019

Dear County Manager and County Director of Social Services:

As you know, Session Law 2017-41 requires all counties to enter into an annual written agreement, referred to as a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), with the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) for all social services programs excluding medical assistance (Medicaid). Fiscal Year (FY) 2018-2019 was the first year of these agreements.

This letter provides an overview of the MOU process for FY 2019-2020, outlines the actions that you will need to take, and includes attachments that you will need to review. In November 2018, an amendment was required to the original performance measures. Specifically, system level measures were moved from static numbers to growth measures. Further, the impact of Hurricane Florence on county and state operations delayed the data validation process. Because of these factors, no performance improvement or corrective action was initiated for MOU compliance for FY 2018-2019.

For FY 2019-2020, the performance measures remain the same as the previous MOU. DHHS has been working to create county level reports for these measures that will allow counties to produce reports for their performance on all measures and train counties in running these reports. Currently data for 13 measures can be locally generated and has been validated with DSS agencies. These measures can be found in **Attachment I** of the new MOU and are titled Mandated Performance Requirements. **These are the only measures that will be evaluated as part of the MOU for FY 2019-2020 and subject to performance improvement or corrective action.**

The remaining 13 measures, titled Performance Requirements, are found in Attachment III and **will not be included in any corrective action.** Ongoing monitoring and support activities will continue as they have in prior years for these remaining 13 measures. We will continue to develop reports and validate data for these remaining performance measures. As always, we will work with the NC Association of County Directors of Social Services and counties to assist with the data validation process.

NC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES • DIVISION OF SOCIAL SERVICES

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AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY / AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER

Several items are included with this letter for your review and information:

- Fact Sheets for each program area that provide information on the measures
- Your individual county measures for the calendar year 2018
- Memorandum of Understanding for state fiscal year 2019-2020

Please take the steps below and return signed agreements to Susan Osborne (susan.osborne@dhhs.nc.gov) and Gwen Waller (Gwendolyn.Waller@dhhs.nc.gov) no later than June 30, 2019.

1. On page 6 please add the name and contact person to whom information and notices regarding this agreement should be sent.
2. On page 10 submit this document for signature to the person who the county designates as the signature authority. Two spaces for signature have been provided, if the county elects to have the document co-signed by county leadership and the Department of Social Services director.
3. Once we receive your returned, signed copy of the MOU it will be submitted to Secretary Mandy Cohen for signature and a signed copy will be returned for your records. Please note that any signing statement, resolution or other documentation that a County may return to DHHS along with a signed MOU will be deemed separate from the MOU and not incorporated as a part of the MOU. If any documentation is physically affixed to the signed MOU, DHHS may return the MOU to be signed without any affixed documentation. DHHS will review and retain any submissions received from a County and follow up with a County as needed.

Thank you for your ongoing partnership with us in serving North Carolina's citizens with critical services. Please feel free to contact me directly if you have any questions or need any additional information.

Sincerely,



Susan G. Osborne
Assistant Secretary for County Operations