



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

Office of the Commissioner

Margaret Ross Schultze
COMMISSIONER

April 28, 2017

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Terry McAuliffe
Governor of Virginia

The Honorable Thomas K. Norment, Jr.
Co-Chairman, Senate Finance

The Honorable Emmett W. Hanger, Jr.
Co-Chairman, Senate Finance

The Honorable S. Chris Jones
Chairman, House Appropriations

Daniel Timberlake
Director Department of Planning and Budget

FROM: Margaret Ross Schultze

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Margaret Ross Schultze", written over the printed name.

SUBJECT: Report on Item 346 of the 2016 Appropriation Act – Adoption of Children in Foster Care

I am pleased to submit the Department of Social Services' quarterly report pursuant to Item 346 (F) of the 2016 Appropriation Act. Item 346 (F) provides \$1,500,000 in the first year and \$1,500,000 in the second year to implement pilot programs that increase the number of foster care children adopted. It requires the Department of Social Services to report quarterly on the use and effectiveness of this funding, including the number of additional children adopted from foster care and the types of ongoing supportive services provided as a result of the expenditure of these funds. If you have any questions or need additional information concerning this report, please contact me at (804) 726-7011.

MRS: kc

Attachment

Department of Social Services
Quarterly Report on Adoption Contracts
(January – March 2017)

Post Adoption Services – FAM-15-083

There are three contractors providing post adoption services under this funding stream. The contracts were established to increase and expand the coverage area for post adoption services identified as underserved areas in Virginia. The Center for Adoption Support and Education (C.A.S.E.) is providing services in the Eastern Region (*e.g., cities of Chesapeake, Hampton, Newport News, Norfolk, Poquoson, Suffolk, Virginia Beach, Williamsburg; and Gloucester and James City counties*) and the Piedmont Region (*e.g., Franklin, Craig, Bedford, Campbell, Botetourt, Rockbridge, Roanoke, and Amherst counties, and cities of Lynchburg, Roanoke and Salem*). DePaul Community Resources is providing services in the Piedmont Region (*e.g., Amherst, Alleghany, Appomattox, Bedford, Campbell, Charlotte, Craig, Halifax, Henry, Mecklenburg, Pittsylvania, and Roanoke Counties and the cities of Danville, Martinsville, and Roanoke*). Frontier Health is providing services in the Western Region (*e.g., Lee, Scott and Wise Counties and the City of Norton*).

During this quarter, C.A.S.E. provided family and individual counseling services to five families and seven adopted youth. DePaul provided case management, family counseling, and support group services to 35 families and 55 adopted youth. Frontier Health provided support groups, family and individual counseling, case management, and crisis intervention services to 119 families and will be launching online support groups in March 2017. The contractors have received consistent feedback from families who have participated in the program that the services provided were critical to the preservation of an adoption of a child with special needs.

Extreme Recruitment® - FAM-15-093

There are four contractors providing child specific adoption recruitment services under this funding stream. Extreme Recruitment® is a race to permanency for youth who have parental rights terminated and have been waiting the longest for an adoptive family or those who have characteristics that put them at risk of aging out of the system without permanency. The contractors are working in partnership with the youth's permanency team to find persons related by blood or kinship (*i.e., former foster families, teachers, coaches*) who may be prospective permanency resources for the youth or a significant reconnection for the youth to ensure support after foster care. The contractors are C2Adopt, United Methodist Family Services (UMFS) Tidewater, UMFS Northern VA and Radford Department of Social Services. C2Adopt is providing services to all of the localities in the Central Region. UMFS Tidewater is contracted to provide services in the Eastern Region (*e.g., Accomack, Brunswick, Dinwiddie, Franklin, Gloucester, Greensville-Emporia, Isle of Wight, James City, Mathews, Northampton, Prince George, Southampton, Surry, Sussex and York-Poquoson counties; and the cities of Chesapeake, Hampton, Newport News, Norfolk, Virginia Beach and Williamsburg*). UMFS Northern VA is contracted to provide services in the Northern Region (*e.g., cities of Alexandria, Arlington, Fredericksburg, Manassas, Manassas Park and Winchester; and Clarke, Culpepper, Fairfax, Fauquier, Frederick, Greene, Harrisonburg-Rockingham, King George, Loudon, Louisa, Madison, Orange, Page, Prince William, Rappahannock, Shenandoah, Spotsylvania, Stafford, and Warren counties*). Radford DSS is contracted to provide services in the Western Region (*e.g., City of Radford; and Montgomery, Floyd, Grayson, Giles and Washington counties*).

During this quarter, C2Adopt provided services to 13 youth and identified at least one match or reconnection for all 13 youth. UMFS Tidewater and UMFS Northern VA provided services to 23 youth. An average of 68 relatives have been identified and 2 reconnections have occurred for the youth served. These connections have allowed the youth to have baby pictures and family memorabilia that they would not have otherwise had access to. Radford DSS has provided services to five (5) youth this quarter and was able to transfer custody to a relative for a youth with an extensive foster care history.