



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES
Administration on Children, Youth and Families
330 C Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20201

JAN 08 2016

Susan Alford
Director
South Carolina Department of Social Services
P.O. Box 1520
Columbia, SC 29202-1520

Dear Director Alford:

The Children's Bureau (CB), Administration for Children and Families (ACF), has reviewed the evidence submitted by the South Carolina Department of Social Services (SCDSS) in response to the Disallowance Notice included with the final report of the title IV-E eligibility review issued August 27, 2015, following the primary review of the SCDSS title IV-E foster care program during the week of May 18 - 22, 2015 (see enclosed). The CB has determined that while the one error case identified on the review (sample case number 10) is still an error case due to the safety issue identified in our original report, it is appropriate to rescind the portion of the August 27, 2015 disallowance attributable to our original finding on the judicial determination of "contrary to the welfare" in the removal order.

Therefore, the CB will withdraw \$137,348 from the original total disallowance of \$144,242. The remaining disallowance for the one error case is \$1,302 (\$1,302 in maintenance payments and no related administrative costs). The total remaining disallowance for that error case and the four non-error cases with improper payments identified on the review is \$6,894 (\$3,044 in maintenance payments and \$3,850 in associated administrative costs) and should be paid according to procedures described in the August 27, 2015 disallowance letter.

As part of the state's ongoing efforts to improve its title IV-E foster care eligibility determination process, the CB recommends South Carolina continue to examine identified program deficiencies and develop sustainable strategies that will assist the state in operating and maintaining an accurate title IV-E foster care eligibility program. The CB Region 4 office staff is available to assist the state in identifying corrective actions to address issues and concerns raised during the IV-E review, as well as, any issues that may arise in the future.

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You may contact Shalonda Cawthon, Regional Program Manager, at (404) 562-2242 and (shalonda.cawthon@acf.hhs.gov) or Anthony Bingham, Child and Family Program Specialist, at (404) 562-0019 and (anthony.bingham@acf.hhs.gov), if you have any questions. Questions regarding the disallowance may be directed to Karla Richardson, ACF Office of Grants Management Financial Operations Specialist, at (404) 562-0567 (karla.richardson@acf.hhs.gov).

Sincerely,

/Rafael Lopez/

Rafael Lopez
Commissioner
Administration on Children, Youth and Families

cc: Taron Davis, Child Welfare Deputy Director; SCDSS; Columbia, SC
Mark Barcus, Director of Program Development, SCDSS; Columbia, SC
Gloria Kempson, Title IV-E Program Specialist, SCDSS, Columbia, SC
Shalonda Cawthon, CB Child Welfare Regional Program Manager; Region 4; Atlanta, GA
Paul Kirisitz, CB Director of Regional Programs; Washington, DC
Gail Collins, CB Program Implementation Director; Washington, DC
Anthony Bingham, CB Child and Family Program Specialist; Region 4; Atlanta, GA
Karla Richardson, Financial Operations Specialist, OGM; Region 4; Atlanta, GA