



Buncombe County Health and Human Services

Public Assistance & Work Support Strategies ~ Public Health ~ Social Work Services ~ Veterans Services

Stoney Blevins

Health and Human Services Director

Date: July 3, 2017

To: Buncombe County Commissioners

From: Stoney Blevins, Buncombe HHS Director

Re: State County MOU for the provision of social services

On June 21, 2017 House Bill 630, otherwise known as Rylan's Law, was codified in NC. The major components of the law center on:

- A Social Services Workgroup tasked to recommend a regional model of state supervision and consider local regional service delivery/ collaboration.
- A contract with a third party vendor to develop a plan to reform social services delivery in NC, with particular attention to the child welfare system. A key component of this reform plan is the creation, analysis and effective use of data culminating in a Social Services Transparency Dashboard.
- **Effective 7/1/18, creates local written agreements between NC DHHS and County HHS/DSS and County Governments requiring local performance requirements as well as state authority to initiate corrective action and withhold funds for non-compliance.**
- Creates the legal option of regional social service departments.
- Creates a Child Well-being Transformation Council.
- Establishes several changes to foster care/ adoption practice to include a driver's license pilot project, waivers for Intensive Alternative Family Treatment, changes to termination of parental rights appeals, timeframes for foster home licensure and home observation standards in foster child reunification actions.

The Buncombe Interim County Manager and HHS Director signed the attached MOU on July 2, 2018 for SFY 2019. Highlights, opportunities and challenges of the MOU will be presented in open session.