

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
OFFICE OF DIRECTOR**

ACTION REFERRAL

TO	DATE
<i>Myers</i>	<i>8-14-08</i>

DIRECTOR'S USE ONLY	ACTION REQUESTED
1. LOG NUMBER <i>000092</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for the Director's signature DATE DUE _____
2. DATE SIGNED BY DIRECTOR <i>cc: Ms. Forkner</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Prepare reply for appropriate signature DATE DUE _____
	<input type="checkbox"/> FOIA DATE DUE _____
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Necessary Action

APPROVALS (Only when prepared for director's signature)	APPROVE	* DISAPPROVE (Note reason for disapproval and return to preparer.)	COMMENT
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
OFFICE OF DIRECTOR

ACTION REFERRAL

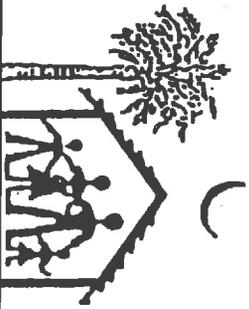
* *
↓

Evaluating Staff needs
~~Don't think to meet?~~

TO *Myers* [*Feeling g/oa & need to meet with her.*] DATE *8/10/08*
8-14-08

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4.			



South Carolina Association of Children's Homes and Family Services

August 13, 2008

RECEIVED

AUG 14 2008

Colonel Emma Forkner
South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
P.O. Box 8206
Columbia, SC 29202-8206

Department of Health & Human Services
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Re: State Budget Reductions

Dear Colonel Forkner:

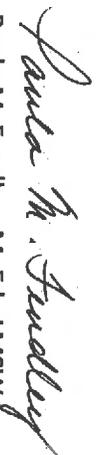
As we approach another round of budget reductions as a result of recent revenue projections by the State Board of Economic Advisors and activity by the Budget and Control Board, I know that you and your staff are faced with many daunting challenges about how those cuts should be taken. I have been impressed by the leadership of Dr. Costin-Myers and her staff, and her willingness to involve providers of care to children in policy discussions. As you make decisions about how cuts will be taken in your agency, we urge you to hold reimbursements for children's services harmless to the maximum extent possible.

Children who receive services provided by South Carolina Association of Children's Homes and Family Services (SCACHFS) members include those who have been neglected or abused, those who are medically fragile or have other physical or mental disabilities, and those who are emotionally disturbed or delinquent. The challenges of caring for these children are great. We represent residential providers, therapeutic foster care providers and emergency shelters. The SCACHFS promotes the best care possible for children with a magnitude of complicated physical or behavioral health conditions.

While we adjust to a move toward increasing community-based and prevention services, we want to assure that children who need out-of-home placement and behavioral health services actually have placement and treatment options available to them. The current child welfare infrastructure must be preserved until there is agreement on, and collaboration about, what the next iteration of the system will look like. Recent amendments to the Medicaid State Plan have had a destabilizing impact on the provider community, as well.

The SCACHFS Board of Directors and I welcome an opportunity to provide information and assistance to you or Dr. Costin-Myers.

Kindest Personal Regards,


Paula M. Fendley, M. Ed., LMSW
Chief Executive Officer