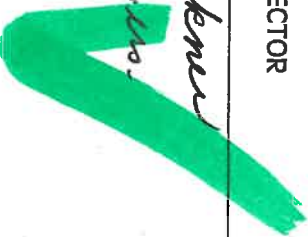


**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
OFFICE OF DIRECTOR**

ACTION REFERRAL

TO <i>Mr. Spivey / Waldey</i>	DATE <i>9/18/09</i>
----------------------------------	------------------------

DIRECTOR'S USE ONLY	ACTION REQUESTED
1. LOG NUMBER <i>000136</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> I Prepare reply for the Director's signature DATE DUE _____
2. DATE SIGNED BY DIRECTOR <i>C: Mr. Jenkins Mrs. Spivey</i> 	<input checked="" 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.			



State of South Carolina

Office of the Governor

MARK S ANFORD
GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF EXECUTIVE
POLICY AND PROGRAMS

September 16, 2009

RECEIVED

SEP 18 2009

Department of Health & Human Services
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Ms. Emma Forkner, Director
c/o Department of Health and Human Services
1801 Main Street, 11th floor
Columbia, SC 29202

Dear Ms. ~~Forkner~~ *Emma*

The Continuum of Care is very supportive of DHHS having regular, planned meetings with the child placing agencies to discuss relevant issues. As suggested by Mr. Sam Waldrep the purpose of the meetings would be to discuss Medicaid issues that impacts more than one agency. These meetings would help insure communication is occurring and it is clear, timely and direct. The Continuum would also like to request an individual quarterly meeting with DHHS to discuss issues unique to our agency.

The Continuum strongly believes the proposed meetings will not only be beneficial but essential. South Carolina is involved with numerous issues and situations which are impacting the system of care for emotionally disturbed children. Although DHHS has held or participated in meetings, often the content consists of reporting decisions that have been or will be made in the future. We feel the State is at a critical juncture and it is imperative that state agencies and DHHS communicate timely, openly and honestly, as well as strategically plan together.

Optimally, we believe the meetings with the child placing state agencies should occur at a minimum of monthly – more often if needed. We also support a standard meeting time and schedule. It is my belief these meetings will increase communication and involvement in the planning of system changes instead of being placed in a situation to respond or react to changes.

Again, thank you for your willingness to approach these changes as partners. Ms. Lynn Martin and I will be the Continuum representatives at the meetings.

Sincerely,

John Shackelford
John Shackelford, Director
Continuum of Care

cc: Felicity Costin Myers, PhD.
Sam Waldrep

Continuum of Care

1205 Pendleton Street, Room 333 • Columbia, South Carolina 29201
(803) 734-4500 • FAX (803) 734-4538