Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr., Governor
James W. Payne, Director
Indiana Department of Child Services
Room W306 – MS47
302 W. Washington Street
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2738

317-232-4705
FAX: 317-232-4490

www.in.gov/dcs

Child Abuse and Neglect Hotline: 800-800-5556

July 8, 2009

To: Regional Managers
            Directors, Local Offices, Department of Child Services

From: James W. Payne, Director
            Angela Green, Deputy Director Practice Support
            Dave Judkins, Deputy Director Field Operations
            Department of Child Services

Subject: GenoPro Software
            DCS-09-13

The Indiana Department of Child Services (DCS) continues to strive to identify extended family members as early as possible, during DCS involvement, which can provide the necessary supports for the children and families in Indiana.   DCS is pleased to announce the availability of new computer software called, "GenoPro" to assist Family Case Managers (FCMs) in completing well-organized genograms.

GenoPro is a comprehensive user friendly software that supports the two components of the Family Network Diagram (FND): Genogram and Ecomap.   GenoPro will allow the user to compile thorough and concise FNDs to assist in the identification of family systems in the following areas, Child and Family Team (CFT) Meetings, Permanency and Concurrent Planning, absent or non-custodial parent searches, home studies and relative placements, and foster care licensing.

A genogram is a detailed representation of a family tree that displays in depth data on relationships among individuals which is gathered through interviews and interactions the FCM has with the family. An ecomap expands on the family members identified in the genogram by representing the family in relation to the environments in which they participate.

The FND is a pictorial representation of a family's connections to each other and their community.   This tool is very helpful in understanding family connections and in identifying potential supports and barriers that the family may face throughout the case.   The use of this tool recognizes the family as the most

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knowledgeable source of information.   This reinforces current procedures outlined in Chapter 5, Section 2, Gathering Case Information, Chapter 5, Section 6, Locating Absent Parents, and Chapter 8, Section 1, Selecting a Placement Option.

DCS encourages FCMs to utilize the GenoPro software in the compilation of FNDs for the children and families in which DCS serves during the assessment phase, and throughout the life of the case, to assist in the identification of possible additional support systems.   FCMs are encouraged to utilize the genograms compiled from the GenoPro software in the completion of the FND.

GenoPro will be available for download on FCMs notebook desktops July 15, 2009.   Training for GenoPro will be facilitated via a Computer Assisted Training (CAT) on July 15, 2009. FCMs will be encouraged to begin utilizing this important software upon completion of training.

If you have any questions regarding this important change please address them to the DCS policy mailbox at DCS.Policy@dcs.in.gov.

Sincerely,

James W. Payne, Director
Department of Child Services