



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

ROY COOPER  
GOVERNOR

MANDY COHEN, MD, MPH  
SECRETARY

September 1, 2017

**SENT VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL**

The Honorable Louis Pate, Chair  
Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on  
Health and Human Services  
North Carolina General Assembly  
Room 311, Legislative Office Building  
Raleigh, NC 27603

The Honorable Josh Dobson, Chair  
Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on  
Health and Human Services  
North Carolina General Assembly  
Room 301N, Legislative Office Building  
Raleigh, NC 27603

Dear Chairmen:

Session Law 2016-94, Section 12C.6.(b), requires the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Social Services, to report on the use of funds provided in this act to expand the Eckerd Kids and Caring for Children's Angel Watch program, a foster care program for children who are ages zero to six, with siblings up to age 10, who are not in the custody of a county department of social services and whose families are temporarily unable to care for them due to a crisis. The report shall, at a minimum, include each of the following: The number of families and children served by the program, including the counties in which services are provided, the number of children who enter foster care within six months after their family participates in the program, a comparison of children with similar needs that do not participate in the program and the number of those children who enter into foster care and any other matters the Division deems relevant. This report is due no later than September 1, 2017. Pursuant to the provisions of law, I am pleased to present the attached report.

Please direct all questions concerning this report to Wayne Black, Director of the Division of Social Services, at 919-527-6335 or [Wayne.Black@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:Wayne.Black@dhhs.nc.gov).

Sincerely,

Mandy Cohen, MD, MPH  
Secretary

cc:	Rod Davis	Ben Popkin	Theresa Matula	Kolt Ulm
	Joyce Jones	Susan Jacobs	Marjorie Donaldson	Leah Burns
	Pam Kilpatrick	Wayne Black	LT McCrimmon	Denise Thomas
	<a href="mailto:reports@ncleg.net">reports@ncleg.net</a>	Mark Benton	Susan Perry-Manning	Christen Linke Young

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AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY / AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER



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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

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SECRETARY

September 1, 2017

**SENT VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL**


Mark Trogdon, Director  
Fiscal Research Division  
Suite 619, Legislative Office Building  
Raleigh, NC 27603

Dear Director Trogdon:

Session Law 2016-94, Section 12C.6.(b), requires the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Social Services, to report on the use of funds provided in this act to expand the Eckerd Kids and Caring for Children's Angel Watch program, a foster care program for children who are ages zero to six, with siblings up to age 10, who are not in the custody of a county department of social services and whose families are temporarily unable to care for them due to a crisis. The report shall, at a minimum, include each of the following: The number of families and children served by the program, including the counties in which services are provided, the number of children who enter foster care within six months after their family participates in the program, a comparison of children with similar needs that do not participate in the program and the number of those children who enter into foster care and any other matters the Division deems relevant. This report is due no later than September 1, 2017. Pursuant to the provisions of law, I am pleased to present the attached report.

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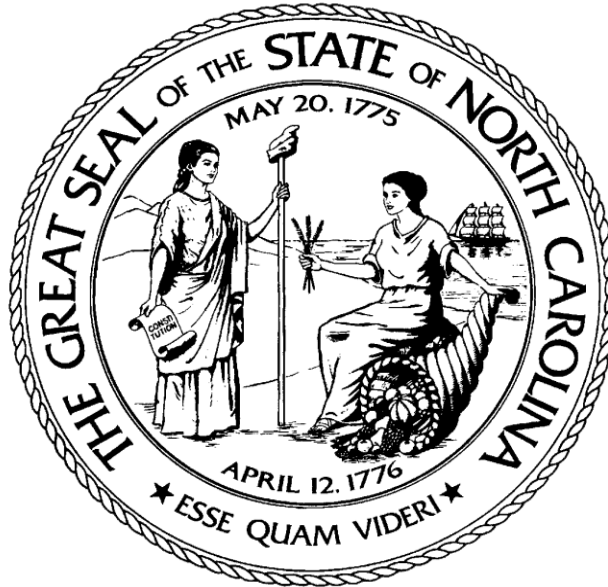
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# **Eckerd Kids and Caring for Children's Angel Watch Program**

**Session Law 2016-94, Section 12C.6**



**Final Report to the**

**Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Health and**

**Human Services**

**and**

**Fiscal Research Division**

**by**

**North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services**

**September 1, 2017**

## **Reporting Requirements**

The Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Social Services, shall report on the use of funds provided in this act to expand the Eckerd Kids and Caring for Children's Angel Watch program, a foster care program for children who are ages zero to six, with siblings up to age 10, who are not in the custody of a county department of social services and whose families are temporarily unable to care for them due to a crisis. The report shall, at a minimum, include each of the following:

- (1) The number of families and children served by the program, including the counties in which services are provided.
- (2) The number of children who enter foster care within six months after their family participates in the program.
- (3) A comparison of children with similar needs that do not participate in the program and the number of those children who enter into foster care.
- (4) Any other matters the Division deems relevant.

SECTION 12C.6.(b) The Division of Social Services shall make an interim report in accordance with this section on or before March 1, 2017. The Division shall submit a final report to the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Health and Human Services and the Fiscal Research Division by September 1, 2017.

### Number of Children and Families Served by the Program

County	Children	Families	Entering Foster Care
Robeson	53	32	0
Bladen	6	4	0
Scotland	13	7	0
Mecklenburg	64	42	0
Gaston	5	2	0
Cabarrus	2	1	0
Lincoln	2	1	0
Wake	48	34	2
Johnston	2	1	0
Edgecombe	1	1	0
Buncombe	62	40	2
Henderson	7	2	0
McDowell	15	2	0
Yancey	2	1	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>4</b>

Since October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016, Angel's Watch has served two hundred and eighty-two (282) children through June 2017. To date, four (4) of the two hundred and eighty-two (282) children receiving Angel's Watch services have entered the foster care system.

In comparison, the number of children in the State's foster care system ages 0-6 with a sibling 10 or younger for state fiscal year 2016-17 was 2,469.



**CARING for CHILDREN**  
a program of **Eckerd Kids**

## ANGELS WATCH DHHS FINAL REPORT June 30, 2017

**History and Purpose:** The purpose of this program is to recruit and train Angels Watch families to provide family support services and temporary placement in order to prevent child abuse, neglect and involvement with child protective services. \$1,100,000.00 in non- reoccurring funds was appropriated this fiscal year for the program.

**Goal:** The goal is to serve 275 children by the end of the contract. We have served **282** to date which has met our YTD census. 106 referrals have been rejected to date due to age of the child. To date, only four children have gone into foster care who have been served in this program.

### Performance and Actions to Date:

**Contract and Implementation:** A contract was secured with North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services on 10-12-16 outlining the requirements. This was secured as a State wide contract eliminating the need to contract with each County. Eckerd Kids has implemented the program focusing on a regional approach in order to expand the services.

### 4 REGIONS WITH FOCUS on the Following COUNTIES:

**Regional Office Location: Robeson County: 72 children**

**Includes:** Brunswick, Columbus, Scotland, New Hanover, Bladen, Onslow  
Duplin and Pender counties.

**Admissions: Robeson 32 families/53 children; Bladen 4 families/6 children  
Scotland 7 families/13 children**

**Regional Office Location: Mecklenburg County: 73 children**

**Includes:** Lincoln, Gaston, Stanly, Union, Cabarrus, and Cleveland counties.

**Admissions: Mecklenburg 42 families/ 64 children; Gaston 2 family/5 children; Cabarrus 1 family/2 children;  
Lincoln 1 family/2 children**

**Regional Office Location: Wake County: 51 children**

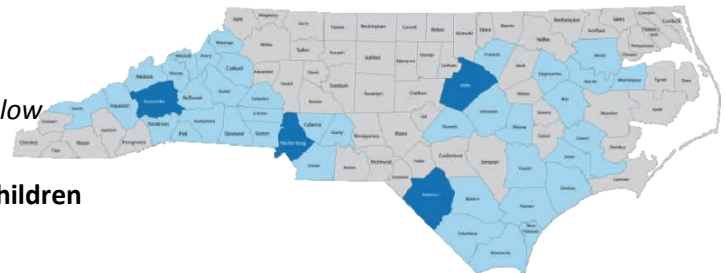
**Includes:** Pitt, Craven, Edgecombe, Martin, Johnston, Washington, Bertie, Harnett, Franklin, Jones, and Wayne counties.

**Admissions: Wake 34 families/ 48 children; Johnston 1 family/2 children; Edgecombe 1 family/ 1 child**

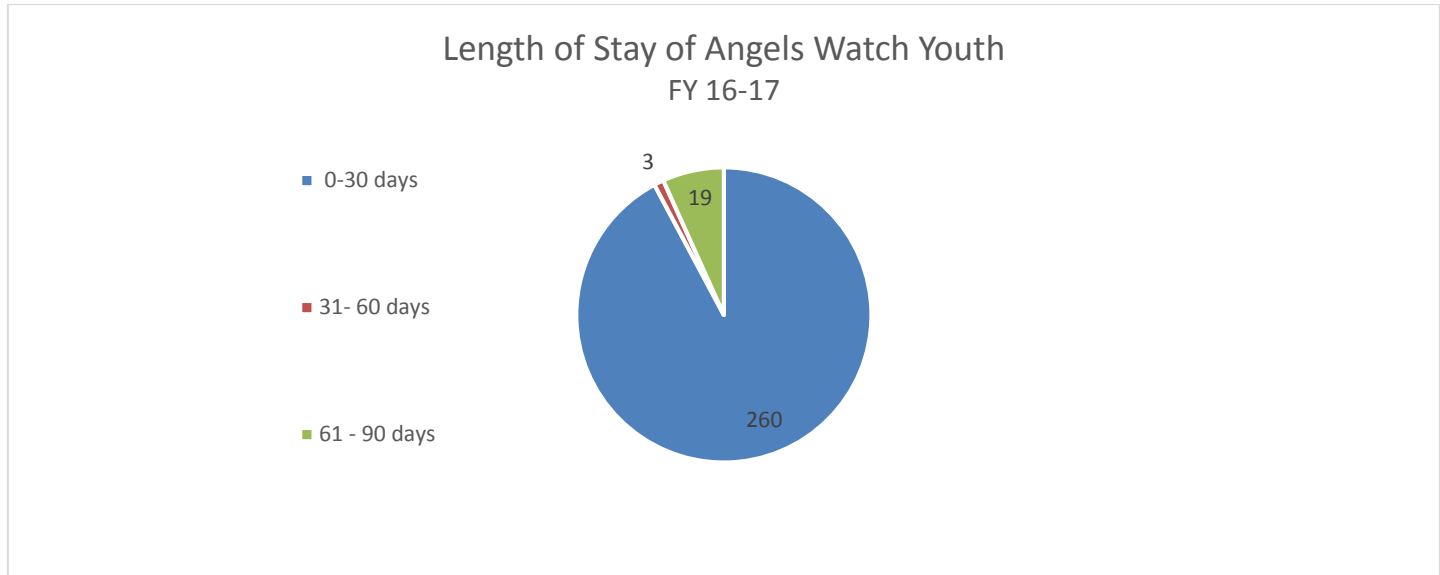
**Regional Office Location: Buncombe County: 86 children**

**Includes:** Henderson, McDowell, Madison, Haywood, Polk, Rutherford, Burke, Catawba, Swain, Caldwell, Yancey, Avery,  
Watauga, and Mitchell counties.

**Admission: Buncombe 40 families/ 62 children; Henderson 2 families/ 7 children; McDowell 2 families/ 15 children;  
Yancey 1 family/2 children**



The purpose of the grant, services to be provided, and objectives to be achieved and expected results.



1. **Purpose of the Grant:** Recruit, train, and mentor host families to provide family support services and temporary placement in order to prevent child abuse, neglect and involvement with child protective services. These services work as a prevention program to keep children out of the foster care system. Families who self-identify the need for assistance can refer themselves to the program while they seek resolution to whatever the presenting issue is and local DSS offices can refer families to the program who come to the attention of the child welfare system and don't currently meet the criteria for removal, but without additional support would likely enter the child welfare system in the future.  
**Angels Watch licensed and trained 24 homes statewide. In addition, Angels Watch utilized other child placing agencies subcontracted beds to include Caring for Children, Children's Hope Alliance, Lutheran Family Ministries, Life Opportunities, etc.**
2. **Services to be Provided:**
  - **Assessments:** Complete an Assessment of the family situation to determine length of hosting arrangement. NCFAS G& T (North Carolina Family Assessment Scale General and Trauma)  
**Completed at the 30<sup>th</sup> day of admission and at discharge.**  
**100% of families completing service over 30 days demonstrated improvement in various levels of family functioning. Please see pie chart above which demonstrates the amount of children in Angels Watch after 30 days of stay. Any children with a subsequent stay in Angels Watch are only represented in the census for their initial admission.**
  - **Home Visits:** A face to face initial foster home visit must occur within three (3) business days of the child's placement in a Host Family Home by an Angels Watch Team. The Angels Watch Team shall complete at least one (1) face to face home visit each month after the initial home visit. Angels Watch Team will be available to Host Family by phone 24/7.  
**100% compliance as evidenced by notes in the client electronic health record.**
  - **Family Referrals:** Provide appropriate information and referrals (to include referrals to Intensive Family Preservation Services, Psychological/Psychiatrist Services, Vocational Training and Services, Intensive In Home Services, Help Mate, Substance Abuse Counseling/Residential Placement) to assist family with the identified needs within their family plan to strengthen and reunify their family.

**100% compliance as evidenced by the individual service plan developed with families with a greater than 30 day length of stay and case notes in the client electronic health record.**

- **Case Closure:** Upon closure for the family, provider shall document the status of each service the family was recommended to be completed. Each service or task shall be clearly identified as their compliance status, dates of referrals and providers efforts to assist with compliance.

**100% compliance as evidenced by notes in the client electronic health record.**

**3. Objectives to be Achieved:**

Help parent/guardian in crisis to promote effective coping that can lead to positive growth and change by acknowledging the problem, recognizing its impact and learning new or more effective behaviors for coping with similar experiences.

Provide a safe and stable environment for children during their stay in Angel's Watch homes.

Provide the necessary tools and resources to parent/guardian so children can return to a safe and stable environment.

Increase parent/guardian skills and knowledge of child development, and build on strengths while reducing risk factors.

**100% compliance as evidenced by notes in the client electronic health record.**

**4. Expected Results:**

- **Discharge from program:** 90% of all children will be discharged within 90 days.

**100% compliance as evidenced by discharge and admission dates in the client electronic health record**

- **Foster Home Visits:** 98% of foster home visits will be conducted face-to-face monthly.

**100% compliance as evidenced by notes in the client electronic health record.**

- **Community Support:** 85% Parents report knowledge of community supports as demonstrated thru program generated recommendations and referrals.

**100% as evidenced by the administration of the Retrospective Protective Factors Survey with families with a greater than 30 day length of stay.**

- **Population Served:** 100% served will be children who are age 0-6 (with siblings up to age 10) who are not in the custody of the Department of Social Services and whose families are temporarily unable to care for them because of a crisis.

**100% compliance as evidenced by the notes in the client electronic health record**

**Contact Information:** Jennifer Stout, Operations Director 1550 Hendersonville Rd, Ste 202 Asheville, NC 28803

cell 828-772-8451 [jstout@eckerd.org](mailto:jstout@eckerd.org)