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GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES  
LANSING

MAURA D. CORRIGAN  
DIRECTOR

September 23, 2011

The Honorable Bruce Caswell, Chair  
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on DHS  
Michigan State Senate  
Lansing, MI 48933

The Honorable David Agema, Chair  
House Appropriations Subcommittee on DHS  
Michigan House of Representatives  
Lansing, MI 48933

Dear Senator Caswell and Representative Agema:

Section 568(2) of 2010 Public Act 190 requires reports on appropriation adjustments authorized in section 568(2) of 2007 PA 131. This report covers all adjustments for fiscal year 2011. The fiscal year 2011 local office staffing allocation provided for continued staffing for the department's child welfare improvement initiatives. Vacant positions are being filled by current, experienced adoption, children's protective services (CPS) and foster care (FC) staff. In addition, the department continues to actively recruit applicants within our colleges and universities to enhance our staffing expertise. These staff are assigned caseloads based on their experience and as required training is completed. Local offices continue to staff the foster care positions that specialize in title IV-E financial determinations and provide updated training as required. Additional direct care positions have been added to enhance our foster care initiatives in the following categories:

- Local offices have been allocated 25.0 Health Liaison positions that promote and ensure improved health outcomes for all children in foster care by working with the Medicaid Health Plans to ensure appropriate medical coverage and physical, developmental and mental health services for foster children are administered.
- Local offices have been allocated 15.0 Education Planner positions which provide assistance and guidance to youth in the foster care system to achieve improved educational outcomes, with specific focus on assisting youth in obtaining remedial and special education services.

These new initiatives provide for specialized services that support the overall case services plan but these workers do not carry a caseload. The ongoing CPS and FC worker remains responsible for overall case planning and management.

Sincerely,

Susan Kangas,  
Chief Financial Officer

c: Senate and House Appropriations Subcommittees on DHS  
Senate and House Fiscal and Policy Offices  
State Budget Director