



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES
Office of the Assistant Secretary, Suite 600
370 L'Enfant Promenade, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20447

OCT 01 2008

The Honorable Jim Gibbons
Governor of Nevada
Carson City, Nevada 89701

Dear Governor Gibbons:

I am writing to congratulate the State of Nevada on the successful completion of its Program Improvement Plan (PIP) under the Child and Family Services Review (CFSR). All of the action steps in the PIP have been fulfilled, and all data goals have been met.

Based on the results of Nevada's CFSR in February 2004, the State developed a PIP that included a series of action steps and benchmarks, identified specific numeric goals to achieve (as measured by the State's on-site review process), and identified a minimum level of improvement that would be made towards achieving the National Data Standards.

In September 2007, subsequent to the development of the PIP, a renegotiation occurred to include activities to address additional information about Nevada's child welfare system. This renegotiation led to the addition of ten new action steps and 73 benchmarks targeted at improving child welfare practice and systemic issues. The renegotiated PIP reflected the State's commitment to and prioritization of child safety statewide, with particular attention to and oversight of the largest metropolitan area and child welfare jurisdiction in the State.

Since the renegotiation, the State's progress has been monitored and reviewed by the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) using the data contained in the State's PIP quarterly reports. The final data submission to ACF in June 2008 satisfied the requirement that the State submit data to ACF for review on a quarterly basis. Having concluded their review, ACF's Children's Bureau has determined that the State has successfully completed all action steps and benchmarks associated with the renegotiated PIP, and all associated fiscal penalties, assessed at a minimum of \$368,955 for this level of non-conformity, have been rescinded.

Once again, congratulations on the successful completion of the Nevada PIP. ACF commends the work of the staff of the Department of Health and Human Services – Division of Child and Family Services. Despite the demands of system-wide restructuring, including administrative and organizational changes required to move from a bifurcated child welfare system to a State-administered system, Nevada's staff has exemplified dedication and commitment to improving safety, permanency, and well-being for the State's children and families.

Sincerely,



Daniel C. Schneider
Acting Assistant Secretary
for Children and Families

cc: Michael Willden, Director, Department of Health and Human Services
Diane Comeaux, Administrator, Division of Child and Family Services
Barbara Legier, Deputy Administrator, Division of Child and Family Services
William Hornsby, Director, Child and Family Services Review Unit, Children's Bureau
Sally Flanzer, Region IX, Children's Bureau

Governor Gibbons,
I have been personally involved in this
matter for quite some time. Your leadership
and direction have been apparent to me.
Thank you for your efforts.
Dan