



February 27, 1998

Ohio Works First (OWF) Letter No. 4

TO: Directors, County Departments of Human Services
Directors, Public Children Services Agencies
Account Managers

FROM: Isaac R. Palmer, Deputy Director
Office of Workforce Development

**SUBJECT: OHIO WORKS FIRST AND CHILDREN'S PROTECTIVE SERVICES
COLLABORATION MODEL**

Enclosed is a copy of "Ohio Works First (OWF) and Children's Protective Services (CPS) Collaboration Model" developed by a workgroup consisting of county, district and central office public assistance and child welfare staff. The purpose of the model is to provide information and tools to County Departments of Human Services (CDHSs) and Public Children Services Agencies (PCSAs) in establishing collaborative protocols for the areas of interface between OWF and CPS in order to maximize services to families aimed at self-sufficiency.

The areas of interface covered in the collaboration model include:

- Confidentiality and information sharing;
- Minor parent living arrangement;
- Family assessment/appraisal and referrals to community resources including CPS;
- Service collaboration through case plans and self-sufficiency contracts;
- Sanctioning families; and
- Ninety-day continuation of OWF when children have been removed from the assistance group's home and reunification is expected to occur in ninety-days.

Each of the areas of interface covered in this document contain: 1) the major requirements; 2) considerations for protocol development; and 3) a sample protocol (except Confidentiality and Information Sharing).

OWF Letter No. 4

Page 2

February 27, 1998

Counties are encouraged to submit their collaboration models to the Office of Workforce Development so that they may be shared with other counties. Any questions should be addressed to Jackie McCubbin, Bureau of Children Services at (614) 728-3467 or Karen Ernes, Bureau of Family Services at (614) 466-6024.

IRP/jm

Enclosure

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