

Care, Child Support Enforcement (CSE), Foster Care and Adoption Assistance, Child Welfare, Child Abuse and Neglect and the discretionary Runaway and Homeless Youth Program.

The Office provides policy guidance to state, county, city or town and tribal governments and public and private organizations to assure consistent and uniform adherence to federal requirements governing formula and entitlement programs. State plans are reviewed and recommendations concerning state plan approval or disapproval are made to the Regional Administrator. The Office provides technical assistance to entities responsible for administering these programs to resolve identified problems, ensures that appropriate procedures and practices are adopted, monitors the programs to ensure their efficiency and effectiveness, establishes regional financial management priorities and reviews cost allocation plans, and monitors state systems projects for the CSE, TANF, Child Care, and Child Welfare programs. The Office provides financial management services for ACF formula and entitlement grants in the region as well as for the Runaway and Homeless Youth Program, which is a discretionary grant. The Office issues discretionary grant awards based on a review of project objectives, budget projections, and proposed funding levels. The Office also reviews cost estimates and reports for ACF entitlement and formula grant programs and recommends funding levels. The Office performs systematic fiscal reviews and makes recommendations to the Regional Administrator to approve, defer or disallow claims for federal financial participation in ACF formula and entitlement grant programs. As applicable, recommendations are made on the clearance and closure of audits, paying particular attention to financial management deficiencies that decrease the efficiency and effectiveness of the ACF programs and taking steps to monitor the resolution of such deficiencies. The Office represents the Regional Administrator in dealing with the ACF program offices on all program and financial policy matters under its jurisdiction. Alerts or early warnings are provided to the Regional Administrator regarding problems or issues that may have significant implications for the programs.

E. Delete KD3.20 Functions, Paragraph D, in its entirety and replace with the following:

D. The Office of Child Development and Developmental Disabilities is headed by an Assistant Regional Administrator who reports to the

Regional Administrator. The Office is responsible for providing centralized management, financial management services, and technical administration of ACF grant programs such as Head Start, Early Head Start, and Developmental Disabilities programs.

In that regard, the Office provides policy guidance to state, county, city or town and tribal governments and public and private organizations to assure consistent and uniform adherence to federal requirements. The Office provides technical assistance to entities responsible for administering these programs to ensure that appropriate procedures and practices are adopted, and monitors the programs to ensure their efficiency and effectiveness. The Office performs systematic fiscal reviews; makes recommendations to the Regional Administrator to approve or disallow costs under ACF discretionary grant programs; and makes recommendations to the Regional Administrator concerning state plan approval or disapproval, as applicable. The Office issues discretionary grant awards based on a review of project objectives, budget projections, and proposed funding levels. As applicable, recommendations are made on the clearance and closure of audits of grantee programs, paying particular attention to financial management deficiencies that decrease the efficiency and effectiveness of the ACF programs and taking steps to monitor the resolution of such deficiencies.

The Office represents the Regional Administrator in dealing with ACF program offices on all program policy and financial matters under its jurisdiction. Alerts or early warnings are provided to the Regional Administrator regarding problems or issues that may have significant implications on the programs.

V. Region IV, Atlanta Office of ACF

A. Delete KD4.10 Organization in its entirety and replace with the following:

KD 4.10 Organization. The Administration for Children and Families, Region IV, Atlanta Office is organized as follows:

Office of the Regional Administrator (KD4A)

Office of the Deputy Regional Administrator (KD4B)

Division of Community Programs (KD4B1)

Division of State Programs (KD4B2)

B. Delete KD4.20 Functions, Paragraph A, in its entirety and replace with the following:

KD4.20 Functions. A. The Regional Office is headed by a Regional

Administrator who reports to the Assistant Secretary for Children and Families through the Director, Office of Regional Operations. The Office is responsible for administration and oversight of the Administration for Children and Families' (ACF) programs and key national goals and priorities. It represents ACF's regional interests, concerns, and relationships within the Department and among other Federal agencies and focuses on state agency culture change, more effective partnerships, and improved customer service and results-oriented performance measurement. The Office provides executive leadership and direction to state, county, city, and tribal governments, as well as public and private local grantees to ensure effective and efficient program and financial management. It ensures that these entities conform to federal laws, regulations, policies and procedures governing the programs, and exercises all delegated authorities and responsibilities for oversight of the programs.

The Office takes action to approve certain state plans and submits recommendations to the Assistant Secretary for Children and Families concerning state plan disapproval, where applicable. The Office contributes to the development of national policy based on regional perspectives on all ACF programs. It oversees ACF operations and the management of ACF regional staff; coordinates activities across regional programs; and assures that ACF goals are met and departmental and agency initiatives are carried out. The Office alerts the Assistant Secretary for Children and Families to problems and issues that may have significant regional or national impact. The Office provides executive representation for ACF in regional external communications, and serves as ACF liaison with the HHS Regional Director, other HHS operating divisions, other federal agencies, and public or private local organizations representing children and families.

Within the Office of the Regional Administrator are a Special Initiatives Staff and an Administrative Staff. The Special Initiatives staff is responsible for providing leadership, direction, coordination and implementation of Administration, HHS, and ACF priorities and initiatives in the Region. The staff assists the Regional Administrator in the promotion and establishment of collaborative partnerships of the priorities and initiatives in every program area. Additionally, it serves as focal point for media inquiries and public affairs