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| LOCAL COMMISSIONERS MEMORANDUM |
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Transmittal No: 91 LCM-103

Date: May 30, 1991

Division: Family and
Children Services

TO: Local District Commissioners

SUBJECT: 1990 Monitoring and Analysis Profiles (MAPS)

ATTACHMENTS: Attachments are not available on-line.

Enclosed is the 1990 Monitoring and Analysis Profiles (MAPS) data package. It contains data on the four major child welfare programs: Child Protective Services, Preventive Services, Foster Care and Adoption. I encourage you to share this material with your Services' staff and to review and use the data in your planning and administrative activities.

This 1990 package improves on previous versions by adding new variables, deleting data that were not sufficiently useful, and changing the order and format of several pages to promote their use. The overall format is similar to previous packages with the Introduction describing the general characteristics of the package, followed by the data pages and concluding with Appendices that clarify the source of the data used.

In particular, you are reminded that MAPS is a norm referencing, profile approach. Data are provided for your county and its comparable group (except for New York City) and are presented as rates or percentages to increase the ability to analyze differences in your county over time and differences with your comparable group. However, differences from the norm are not intrinsically positive or negative. Rather than judge performance based solely on your district's relationship to its comparable group norm, the profile approach fosters discussion and further analysis to understand the differences and to determine whether action is needed. Additionally, since some programs and numbers are small, you should be cautious when interpreting the data.

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Your Regional Office staff are prepared to assist you in analyzing the data and responding to issues that the data generate. Comments on design issues should be made to Larry Brown, Director, Performance Monitoring and Analysis Unit, 10-C, 40 North Pearl Street, Albany, NY 12243 [1-800-342-3715], extension 49429.

Joseph Semidei,
Deputy Commissioner
Division of Family & Children
Services