I. Purpose

The purpose of this Informational Letter is to notify local social services districts about the deployment of the Child Care Program Integrity (CCPI) Fraud Detection System to their districts. The New York State Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) expects districts to take advantage of the opportunity to utilize CCPI to assist in their child care subsidy fraud investigations.

II. Background

In January 2016, CCPI was made available to all local social services districts outside of New York City in conjunction with regionally based training opportunities. CCPI was
designed as a tool to assist child care staff and fraud investigators in their efforts to identify potential cases of child care subsidy fraud for investigation.

CCPI is an automated technical solution that supports child care subsidy fraud investigations by using data mining and predictive analytics to identify potential cases of child care subsidy fraud, via an interface with a user dashboard. It evaluates data from several data sources, initially focusing on: Child Care Time and Attendance System (CCTA) attendance data, Welfare Management System (WMS) eligibility data, Benefits Issuance and Control System (BICS) payment data, and Child Care Facility System (CCFS) program data.

CCPI performs data mining using current data and historic data to identify patterns. The data is analyzed based on red flags (i.e., potential fraud indicators). It combines different indicators and assigns potential fraud scores. The scores assigned to the cases are risk-based and allow for child care workers and subsidy fraud investigators to focus investigations on cases that show the greatest likelihood of fraud. Investigators are also able to drill down into the data to see what data specifically contributed to the assigned score.

Data is refreshed on a monthly basis. New reports are generated each month based on the most recent data. All local social services district child care staff and fraud investigators can have access to CCPI through their Centraport or ny.gov accounts. Specific permissions must be granted to gain such access.

III. Program Implications

While CCPI is currently in the initial roll-out and implementation phase, OCFS expects district staff to begin to utilize the system. OCFS is hosting regularly scheduled technical assistance conference calls to solicit feedback from district staff and to also provide guidance on CCPI use. It is important for OCFS to obtain feedback during this time, so that technical adjustments can be made to the system to refine its functionality. It is OCFS's intent to require CCPI use by all districts once the initial roll-out and implementation has been completed.

Support and technical assistance to CCPI users is available from 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday through Friday by contacting the CCPI call center at (877) 369-6106. Additional user training, including possible on-site technical assistance is available to districts at their request. Requests for user permissions or for training can be directed to Shane Stone at shane.stone@ocfs.ny.gov.

/s/ Janice M Molnar

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