



Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr., Governor  
James W. Payne, Director

**Indiana Department of Child Services**  
Room W392 – MS47  
402 W. Washington Street  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2739

317-232-4705  
FAX: 317-232-4490

[www.in.gov/dcs](http://www.in.gov/dcs)

**Child Abuse and Neglect Hotline: 800-800-5556**

May 1, 2008

To: Regional Managers  
Directors, Local Offices, Department of Child Services

From: James W. Payne, Director  
Stephanie Yoder, Deputy Director of Field Operations  
Angela Green, Deputy Director of Practice Support  
Department of Child Services

Subject: Pediatric Evaluation and Diagnostic Service (PEDS) Program  
DCS-08-04

The Indiana Department of Child Services (DCS) has recently secured a partnership with the Indiana University (IU) School of Medicine/Riley Hospital in providing “real time” medical consultation for children who are alleged to have possible abusive head trauma. The Pediatric Evaluation and Diagnostic Service (PEDS) Program, a DCS sponsored initiative became effective April 4, 2008 and is available 24 hours a day, seven (7) days a week.

Referrals for the PEDS program will be initiated by DCS. PEDS is intended to be a collaborative resource to accurately identify abusive head trauma versus accidental injury. The Riley Hospital PEDS team is composed of five (5) child abuse pediatricians, one (1) nurse and one (1) social worker. The Riley Hospital multidisciplinary team will partner with DCS and local medical staff who are providing care for a child where abusive head trauma is suspected.

The PEDS team and the DCS local office Family Case Manager (FCM) will determine the type of consult depending on the individual circumstances of the case. This could range from a simple telephone call or email (no written report) consultation, record review and written report and/or treatment at Riley Hospital if needed. Testimony for child in need of services (CHINS) civil cases/detention hearings will be provided by the child abuse pediatrician assigned to the case if needed, with telephone testimony preferred especially in cases with only 48 hour notice.



*Protecting our children, families and future*

Training has been finalized to support this exciting initiative. Please see the schedule below for your respective regions designated training date. Training will occur at centralized locations throughout the state. Please confirm with your Regional Manager or designee. Training is available and highly encouraged for any and all community stakeholders who may be impacted by the PEDS program as it is intended to become a mandatory practice for DCS staff effective July 1, 2008.

| <b>Region</b> | <b>Date</b>  |
|---------------|--------------|
| 1&2           | June 3       |
| 3             | June 27      |
| 4             | June 23      |
| 5             | June 5       |
| 6             | June 20      |
| 7&12          | May 27       |
| 8             | June 2       |
| 9             | May 23       |
| 10            | June 18 & 25 |
| 11            | June 6       |
| 13            | May 29       |
| 14            | June 17      |
| 15            | May 30       |
| 16&17         | June 16      |
| 18            | June 26      |

If you have any questions regarding this initiative please address them to Allison Chaney, Assistant Deputy Director for Field Operations at [Allison.Chaney@dcs.IN.gov](mailto:Allison.Chaney@dcs.IN.gov).

Sincerely,

James W. Payne, Director  
Department of Child Services



*Protecting our children, families and future*