June 30, 2016

MEMORANDUM

TO: City and County Superintendents

FROM: Philip C. Cleveland
Interim State Superintendent of Education


Chronic truancy and school suspensions are problems that plague school systems across the nation. For the past several years we have worked with you and provided a variety of resources to address this important issue.

Today I am delighted to call to your attention the Helping Families Summer Symposium to be conducted on July 26 at the Bryant Conference Center in Tuscaloosa. The Helping Families Initiative (HFI) is a program designed to fight chronic absenteeism and maladaptive behavior. Moreover, HFI brings new and additional resources to your school system that focus on dealing with some of our most at-risk youth.

This one-day program will provide an overview of HFI and how you can participate in it. Keynote speakers include Dr. Louis Gomez, Chair of Education at UCLA and a Senior Fellow at the Carnegie Foundation, and Mr. John M. Tyson, Jr., Supernumerary District Attorney for the state of Alabama and Executive Director of the Helping Families Initiative.

| Helping Families Symposium         |
| July 26 — 10 a.m.                  |
| Bryant Conference Center          |
| Tuscaloosa, Alabama               |

The Helping Families Initiative works in harmony with your existing efforts and supplements your resources. I hope you will join me on July 26 to learn more about how this program can assist you.

PCC:LAK

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