



Interstate Data Exchange Consortium

The Finder

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Dear Colleague,

A tool that takes the most solid, verified information available and puts it at the fingertips of line workers is a valuable one indeed; even more so, when it puts money into the households of your clients. The Interstate Data Exchange Consortium (IDEC) does both, and over the last twenty years, the network has become an integral component of South Carolina's case processing - from beginning to end. Our state, which proudly serves as the Seat Agency of IDEC, has seen nothing but continual success in crucial areas like the identification of non-custodial parents, the location of absent parents, the disbursement of Undistributed Collections, and of course the Financial Institution Data Match (FIDM) and AEI Program.

Using IDEC's Shared Database, our workers are able to electronically cross state lines and search for non-custodial parents by name, partial name, misspelled name, and even mispronounced name. On top of that, the worker's search can be refined by age range and locale. As we all know, identification of these absent parents early in the process can mean the difference between a stale future closure and an all-around successful case for paternity, support, medical support, and collection. The Shared Database houses not only "fill in the blank" demographic information, it has each participating state's best and often most current information, generally including DMV, Food Stamp, Unemployment, Corrections, and Employment and New Hire information from both the State and Federal Government. In fact, as of February 2008, a survey of the Shared Parent Locate Database shows updates within the last month of fifty-two of these databases. We know of no other database that can put this kind of current information at the fingertips of its workers.



The Shared Database has other applications as well. Not limited to any single participant type in a case, information is readily available for custodial as well as non-custodial parents. South Carolina has made Undistributed Collections (UDC) a priority in our state for some time and IDEC has proved a vital search tool for these situations – enabling almost three hundred and sixty thousand dollars in UDC disbursement within the past fifteen months. Likewise, there is no faster means of verification of a suspect Social Security Number than IDEC's Shared Database. A number's entry into the SSN field yields generally conclusive results immediately – not days later.

IDEC's contributions to our program do not end there. In fact, more visible are smooth, cost-effective FIDM and AEI processing – hallmarks of the network. All told, almost four thousand financial institutions, using both Methods One and Two, are providing financial and lead data to its members. In the fourth quarter of 2007, IDEC states received close to a

half-million matched accounts, with more than sixty thousand of them being interstate accounts. In addition to the members' FIDM collections, the participating states can boast well over one million dollars to date in AEI collections. This is real money going to real homes. While some are still trying to define AEI, IDEC is practicing it in the form of a tested, user-friendly collection tool that identifies, filters, executes and monitors AEI transactions using parameters prescribed by the participating states.

If you haven't already, please take a good look at IDEC, and consider joining our consortium of fifteen states that refuse to let borders get in the way of a successful child support case.

Sincerely,

Larry J. McKeown, Director
South Carolina Child Support Enforcement Division

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

IDEC is stated-owned and operated. States may join as either Full Members or as Limited Partners through a state contract containing a memorandum of understanding agreement administered by the South Carolina Department of Social Services (SCDSS) which serves as the "Seat Agency." [Read more.](#)

IDEConsortium Full Member States:
Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Georgia,
Kentucky, Louisiana, New Mexico,
North Carolina, Oklahoma,
Pennsylvania, South Carolina,
South Dakota, Tennessee, Virginia,
West Virginia



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