



NC DEPARTMENT OF
**HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**

JOSH STEIN • Governor

DEVDUTTA SANGVAI • Secretary

LISA TUCKER CAULEY • Division Director, Human Services

January 2, 2026

DEAR COUNTY DIRECTORS OF SOCIAL SERVICES

ATTENTION: DIRECTORS, CHILD WELFARE PROGRAM ADMINISTRATORS, MANAGERS, SUPERVISORS, AND SOCIAL WORKERS

SUBJECT: KINNECT FAMILY SEARCH AND ENGAGEMENT TRAINING AND COACHING SESSIONS

PURPOSE/BACKGROUND: TRAINING AND COACHING SESSION REGISTRATIONS

REQUIRED ACTION: **Information Only** **Time Sensitive** **Immediate**

We are excited to continue our partnership with [Kinnect](#), an Ohio-based nonprofit dedicated to enhancing child welfare practices, to provide Family Search and Engagement in-person training and virtual coaching sessions to our child welfare workforce. This furthers our prioritization to equip our workforce with the tools and strategies that promote a *KinFirst* culture and strengthen kinship connections and deliver lasting results for families and children. [Click here](#) to see feedback from attendees at the 2025 trainings.

IN-PERSON TRAINING DATES AND REGISTRATION LINKS

Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis. Training is from 9am-4pm with a one-hour lunch break. This training is open to all child welfare caseworkers, supervisors, managers, directors, and administrators. Full details can be found in flyers for each region.

REGION	DATE	LOCATION	FLYER	REGISTRATION LINK
1	2/18/26	Haywood County HHSA	LINK	Click here to register and select the date you will attend in the registration.
2	2/19/26	Gaston County DHHS	LINK	
3	2/17/26	Randolph County DSS	LINK	
4	1/29/26	Rowan County DSS	LINK	
5	1/28/26	Community Center at Pitt County Office Park	LINK	
6	1/26/26	Pender County, Cooperative Extension Auditorium	LINK	
7	1/27/26	Bertie County DSS	LINK	

VIRTUAL COACHING SESSIONS

Please join your Kinnect trainers, Casie and Rick, for a live, virtual coaching session where you can take a deeper dive into family search and engagement topics ranging from barrier busting, search tools, engagement strategies and everything in between! Coaching is the process of equipping people with tools, knowledge, and opportunities they need to fully develop themselves to be more effective in their commitment to their work. Group coaching sessions will provide real-time support for child welfare professionals seeking to deepen their practice, navigate complex family dynamics, and build stronger connections with the people they serve. You **MUST attend SEEK training prior to coaching sessions.** [Dates, details, and registration link can be found here.](#)

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LOCATION: 1915 Health Services Way, Raleigh, NC 27607

MAILING ADDRESS: 2410 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-2410

www.ncdhhs.gov • TEL: 919-527-6404 • FAX: 919-733-3052

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For questions, please contact the NCDHHS DSS Foster Care Coordinator, Jessica Frisina at Jessica.Frisina@dhhs.nc.gov.

Sincerely,



Adrian W. Daye, MSW
Deputy Director for Child Welfare Practice
Division of Social Services, Child Welfare
North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services

Cc: Lisa Tucker Cauley, Division Director, Human Services, Child, Family, and Adult Regional Support
Donna Fayko, Deputy Director for Child Welfare Operations
William "Ben" Rose, Lead Regional Director
Kathy Stone, Section Chief for Safety and Prevention Services
Kimaree Sanders, Section Chief for Regulatory and Licensing
Heather McAllister, Section Chief for Child and Family Service

CWS-01-26

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