



NC DEPARTMENT OF
**HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**

JOSH STEIN • Governor

DEV DUTTA SANGVAI • Secretary

LISA TUCKER CAULEY • Division Director, Human Services

January 15, 2026

DEAR COUNTY DIRECTORS OF SOCIAL SERVICES

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

SUBJECT: DSS 1515 FOSTER HOME FIRE INSPECTION SAFETY REPORT REVISED

REQUIRED ACTION: ☐ Information Only ☒ Time Sensitive ☒ Action Required

This correspondence serves as a follow up to DCDL [CWS-73-2025](#). Effective January 15, 2026, all agencies are required to use the updated version of the DSS 1515: Foster Home Fire Inspection Safety Report. The form was **revised** to provide clarification and to strengthen protections for children and youth residing in licensed foster homes.

In response to feedback received from fire marshals across the state, the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS) collaborated closely with these officials to ensure that DSS 1515 aligns roles and responsibilities while maintaining the highest standards of child safety. With the review and approval of the state fire association, the **revised** DSS 1515: Foster Home Fire Inspection form is now approved for use.

If you have any questions or need guidance regarding this updated form, please contact Jenny Millsaps, Foster Home Licensing Manager, at jenny.millsaps@dhhs.nc.gov. We appreciate your continued commitment to safeguarding children and youth in foster care and thank you for your cooperation in implementing these important updates.

Sincerely,

Kimaree Sanders

Kimaree Sanders, MSW, MPA
Section Chief for Regulatory and Licensing
Division of Social Services, Child Welfare

Cc: Lisa T. Cauley, Division Director, Human Services, Child, Family, and Adult Regional Support
Adrian Daye, Deputy Director for Child Welfare Practice
Donna Fayko, Deputy Director for County Operations
Kathy Stone, Section Chief for Safety
Meredith Houchins, Interim Section Chief for County Operations
Heather McAllister, Section Chief for Child and Family Services

Attachment: DSS 1515 Foster Home Fire Inspection Safety Report

CWS-06-2026

NC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES • DIVISION OF SOCIAL SERVICES

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