February 16, 2023

DEAR COUNTY DIRECTORS OF SOCIAL SERVICES

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

SUBJECT: RESOURCES FOR KINSHIP FAMILIES

REQUIRED ACTION: ☒ Time Sensitive

PURPOSE: SHARING OF RESOURCES AND SUPPORTS FOR KINSHIP FAMILIES

Kinship families are vital to increasing placement stability and decreasing the effects of trauma on children. North Carolina continues its efforts to remove barriers to kinship placements, allowing kinship families to safely care for children and maintain important family connections. As North Carolina Division of Social Services (NCDSS) continues to engage our kinship families across the State, we want to share resources and opportunities regarding available services and supports to the families.

Capacity Building Center for States is hosting a seminar on racial disparities and the impacts on Black, Hispanic, and Indigenous families. Presenters will include Scott Trowbridge, Esq. and Dr. Salih Alexander, Esq. The seminar will be a unique opportunity to learn how racial disparities can affect kinship and ways to support children, youth, and kinship families. Please share this opportunity with kinship caregivers and other service providers who work directly with the families. The seminar, The Intersection of Racial Equity and Kinship across Child Welfare Case Decision Points: Considerations, Impact, Analysis, and Strategies, will be held on Wednesday, February 22, 2023, at 1 PM EST.

Register for this meeting at the following link:
https://www.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJlde6ppzkoGJqPUOfHwypeuL4LlKRX7ns

Thank you for your continued support of kinship families. Should you have any questions, please contact the State Interim Adoption Manager, Mary Mackins at Mary.Mackins@dhhs.nc.gov.
Sincerely,

Carla McNeill

Carla McNeill, MSW
Section Chief for Permanency Planning
Division of Social Services, Child Welfare
North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services

Cc: Susan Osborne, Assistant Secretary for Human Services
Lisa Tucker Cauley, Senior Director of Child, Family and Adult Services
Adrian Daye, Deputy Director for Child Welfare Practice
Tammy Shook, Interim Deputy Director for County Operations
Kathy Stone, Section Chief for Safety and Prevention Services
Kimaree Sanders, Interim Section Chief for Regulatory and Licensing
Peter West, Section Chief for County Operations

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