



NC DEPARTMENT OF  
**HEALTH AND  
HUMAN SERVICES**

JOSH STEIN • Governor

DEV DUTTA SANGVAI • Secretary

LISA TUCKER CAULEY • Division Director, Human Services

## Announcement

April 2, 2026

**ATTENTION:** County DSS Directors, Program Administrators, Supervisors, and Child Welfare Staff responsible for conducting CPS Assessments.

**SUBJECT:** “Safety Planning in the Real World”

**DATE:** May 7, 2026, from 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

The NC Division of Social Services, in partnership with the UNC School of Social Work, Family and Children’s Resource Program, will offer the 90-minute webinar, “Safety Planning in the Real World.”

By the end of this event, participants will:

- Identify strategies to safety plan for cases with unexplained injuries
- Identify strategies to safety plan when assessment and/or medical evaluation information is incomplete
- Understand how collaborating with Regional Abuse Medical Specialists (RAMS) can help county child welfare agencies with safety planning

NOTE

- This is a live webinar that will be recorded, and the recording will be made available on NCSWlearn. Questions will be pulled from the live chat to create an FAQ document.
- Space is limited, and registration may close earlier if we reach maximum capacity. If we cannot accommodate you in the live session, the recordings will be available on NCSWlearn. You may watch the recordings, and with supervisory approval, you can enter this information into your training attendance history via your Personalized Learning Portfolio on NCSWlearn.org

Audience: Child welfare social workers, supervisors, program managers/administrators, and directors employed in North Carolina County DSS agencies who are responsible for conducting CPS Assessments.

Presenters: Meredith Houchins, Interim Section Chief of County Operations; and Emi Wyble, RAMS Manager, NC Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Social Services; Christi Stephenson, UNC RAMS Child Welfare Supervisor

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

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AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY / AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER

Registration and Training Credit for County DSS Child Welfare Professionals: To receive credit through NCSWlearn.org, you must pre-register for this webinar no later than April 28, 2026. Space is limited, and registration may close earlier if we reach maximum capacity. You must pre-register even if you are joining the webinar as part of a group. To pre-register:

- Log in to your account\* on <https://NCSWlearn.org>
- Select “Personalized Learning Portfolio (PLP),”
- Select the “Webinar” option, and
- Click the “apply for registration” button.

To participate in this webinar, a computer or tablet must have: (1) external speakers or headphones; (2) broadband Internet access.

For more information on how to apply to participate, please e-mail Vicky Chang ([vjchang@email.unc.edu](mailto:vjchang@email.unc.edu)).

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\*If you do not have an account, you can create one at <https://NCSWlearn.org/>

Sincerely,

*Kathy P. Stone*

Kathy P. Stone  
Section Chief for Safety  
Division of Social Services, Child Welfare  
NC Department of Health and Human Services

cc: Lisa Tucker Cauley, Division Director, Human Services  
Donna Fayko, Deputy Director, Child Welfare Services  
Tammy Shook, Interim Assistant Deputy Director, Child Welfare Services  
William “Ben” Rose, Lead Regional Director  
Adrian Daye, Section Chief, Permanency  
Meredith Houchins, Interim Section Chief, County Operations  
Heather McAllister, Section Chief, Well-Being  
Kimaree Sanders, Section Chief, Regulatory and Licensing

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