



NC DEPARTMENT OF  
**HEALTH AND  
HUMAN SERVICES**

JOSH STEIN • Governor

DEV DUTTA SANGVAI • Secretary

LISA TUCKER CAULEY • Division Director, Human Services

April 2, 2026

**Dear County Directors of Social Services**

**Attention: Directors, Child Welfare Program Administrators/Managers, and Supervisors**

**Subject: FY '25-26, Quarter 4 Regional CQI Meetings**

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

**Purpose: Schedule for Quarterly Regional CQI Meetings**

The FY '26, Quarter 4 CQI meetings will provide an opportunity to consider how we can reduce the number of children in care from various angles.

1. How do we prevent children from coming into care?
2. How can we ensure the most safe and stable placements for those who do enter care?
3. How do we improve the timeliness of permanence?

Data will be provided to assist in informing these discussions, and as always, the story behind the data is critical, so it is important that staff who have an understanding of the practice happening in these areas be present. This meeting will have a place for staff from all areas as we consider prevention of entry to achievement of permanence.

Please also consider who among your community partners might be helpful to invite to this discussion. You might consider parents, youth, kin providers with lived experience, providers and legal partners. In past quarters when we have involved community partners, the discussions have been enhanced.

**The dates for the FY '25-26 Q3 Regional CQI meetings are as follows, as usual, all meetings will be from 10 AM to 3 PM:**

Region	Date	Location
1	5/06	Jackson Co. DSS
2	5/28	Caldwell Co. DSS, Tammy Austin Conf Room
3	4/23	Guilford Co. DSS
4	6/24	Richmond Comm College, Cole Auditorium
5	5/20	Franklin Plaza, Louisburg, NC
6	6/30	Pender Co. Cooperative Extension
7	6/17	Bertie Co. DSS

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

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AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY / AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER

**Purpose:** Review and analyze data that informs strategies for reduction in the number of children in care.

**Process:** Details for each region will be sent out at least 1 week in advance of the meeting for your review. To gain maximum perspectives, and insight, we encourage you to share the topic of the meeting with all levels of staff and consider the following questions:

- What are your strengths in the topic areas?
- What concerns or worries do you have about the topic areas?
- What do you know about what has worked in these areas in the past, or strategies your agency might be using that seem to be working?
- **What steps have we taken toward your action plans from last quarter?**

**Attendance:** Staff from all levels of Child Welfare are invited to attend and provide their perspectives on the information provided. Supervisors, who are directly connected to the practice, and understand what is happening at case level, while also being able to identify trends across workers, are especially encouraged to attend. While a topic may seem to be most relevant to CPS or Permanency, please consider the value of perspectives from all areas of the agency. **You are also encouraged to invite/bring community partners who might provide perspective on this quarter's topics.**

**Logistics:** Counties should plan to attend the meeting **in their region** and bring appropriate staff depending on the agenda. All meetings will be from **10 AM – 3 PM** and will include one hour for lunch. Attendees are encouraged to plan so that they can return to the meeting in a timely fashion. This will allow us to maximize our time. Various state staff will be in attendance and available to answer questions or discuss issues during breaks.

If you have questions and/or suggestions for how we might improve these meetings, please contact Holly McNeill at [holly.mcneill@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:holly.mcneill@dhhs.nc.gov).

Donna F. Fayko, M.Ed.



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Cc:

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