



NC DEPARTMENT OF
**HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**

JOSH STEIN • Governor

DEV DUTTA SANGVAN • Secretary

LISA TUCKER CAULEY • Division Director, Human Services

April 24, 2026

DEAR COUNTY DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES

ATTENTION: DIRECTORS, CHILD WELFARE PROGRAM ADMINISTRATORS, MANAGERS,
SUPERVISORS, SOCIAL WORKERS, AND DSS-LICENSED PRIVATE AGENCIES

SUBJECT: PARTNERSHIPS FOR PERMANENCY: ALIGNING PUBLIC AND PRIVATE EFFORTS

REQUIRED ACTION: Information Only Time Sensitive Immediate

The North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Social Services (NCDHHS DSS), remains committed to strengthening the recruitment, utilization, and retention of resource parents across the state. As part of this ongoing effort, we are launching Partnerships for Permanency, a series of in-person and virtual meetings to bring public and private partners together to strengthen outcomes for children and families. These meetings motivate partners to improve recruitment, retention, promote proven strategies, remove barriers, and strengthen collaboration creating one coordinated system for families.

The **in-person meetings** are scheduled to begin at 10:00AM and end at 3:00PM. Dates and locations for the in-person meetings are as follows:

- **May 12, 2026 - Eastern Region**
Martin Community College, Building 1, room 14
1161 Kehukee Park Rd., Williamston, NC 27892
- **May 13, 2026 - Central Region**
Randolph Community College, JB and Claire Davis Corporate Training Center
413 Industrial Park Ave., Asheboro, NC 27205
- **June 3, 2026 - Western Region**
Location TBD

To register for the in-person meetings, please click on the following link
<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/g/a8a9fTkNiM> and complete the registration form.

The **virtual meetings** are scheduled to begin at 9:00AM and end at 12:00PM.

- July 22, 2026 (Register by July 20, 2026)
- October 21, 2026 (Register by October 19, 2026)
- December 9, 2026 (Register by December 7, 2026)

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

LOCATION: 1915 Health Services Way, Raleigh NC 27607

MAILING ADDRESS: 2408 Mail Service Center

Raleigh, NC 27699-2410

www.ncdhhs.gov • Main Tel. 919-527-6340

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY / AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER

To register for the virtual meetings, please on the following link <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/g/C2D4b9g7MA> and complete the registration form.

Please note, for the in-person meetings, agencies are encouraged to limit attendance to no more than two representatives per meeting due to space limitations. If registrations exceed the allotted capacity, registrants will have the opportunity to attend a future in person session once scheduled. NCDHHS DSS will continue to provide updates as additional in person and virtual meetings are scheduled.

Thank you for your ongoing partnership and for your dedication to supporting children and families across North Carolina. If you have any questions, please contact Stephanie Buchanan, Diligent Recruitment and Retention Coordinator, at stephanie.buchanan@dhhs.nc.gov.

Sincerely,

Kimaree Sanders

Kimaree Sanders, MSW, MPA
Section Chief for Regulatory and Licensing
Division of Social Services, Child Welfare
North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services

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

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