



NC DEPARTMENT OF
**HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**

JOSH STEIN • Governor

DEV DUTTA SANGVAN • Secretary

LISA TUCKER CAULEY • Division Director, Human Services

July 9, 2026

DEAR COUNTY DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES

ATTENTION: PRIVATE CHILD PLACING AGENCIES AND CHILD CARING INSTITUTIONS

SUBJECT: KINNECT FAMILY SEARCH AND ENGAGEMENT TRAINING

REQUIRED ACTION: ☒ Information Only ☐ Time Sensitive ☐ Immediate

The North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Social Services (NCDHHS DSS) is excited to announce a partnership with Kinnect to offer Family Search and Engagement (FSE) training to private child placing agencies. [Kinnect](#) is an Ohio-based non-profit organization dedicated to developing KinFirst strategies and delivering programs that strengthen kinship connections and inclusive support networks for families, young people, and children. This work supports our commitment to equip the workforce with tools and strategies that promote a KinFirst culture, strengthen kinship connections, and create lasting results for children and families. Kinnect has been providing their SEEK (SEEK: Search, Engage, Explore, and Kinnect) training to county child welfare professionals across NC in 2025 and 2026. [Feedback](#) from previous participants and host counties has been overwhelmingly positive.

We are pleased to extend this opportunity to private child-placing agency staff. This training is open to staff from all levels. The training is held from 9-4pm with a one-hour break for lunch.

Staff are welcome to register for one of the following dates:

Date	Location	Address	Registration Link
8/25/26	Black Mountain Home	Student Life Center 22 Ray Campbell Dr Black Mountain NC	Register Here
8/26/26	Crossnore Communities for Children	Chapel (<i>enter through the main entrance</i>) 1001 Reynold Rd Winston-Salem, NC	Register Here
8/27/26	Boys and Girls Homes of NC	Fellowship Hall 400 Flemington Dr Lake Waccamaw, NC	Register Here

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

For questions, please contact the Permanency Coordinator, Jessica Frisina at Jessica.Frisina@dhhs.nc.gov.

Sincerely,



Adrian W. Daye, MSW
Section Chief, Permanency
Division of Social Services, Child Welfare
North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services



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 Tucker Cauley Division Director Human Services, Child, Family and Adult Regional Support
Donna Fayko, Deputy Director for Child Welfare Services
William "Ben" Rose, Lead Regional Director
Tammy Shook, Interim Assistant Deputy Director for Child Welfare Services
Kathy Stone, Section Chief for Safety
Meredith Houchins, Interim Section Chief for County Operations
Heather McAllister, Section Chief for Child and Family Services

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