

ROY COOPER • Governor

MANDY COHEN, MD, MPH · Secretary

SUSAN OSBORNE • Assistant Secretary for County Operations for Human Services

April 16, 2020

DEAR COUNTY DIRECTORS OF SOCIAL SERVICES OPERATING RESIDENTIAL CHILD CARE FACILITIES DEAR EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS OF PRIVATE LICENSED RESIDENTIAL CHILD CARE and RESIDENTIAL MATERNITY CARE FACILITIES

ATTENTION: Directors, Program Managers and Child Welfare Professionals

SUBJECT: WAIVER OF ADMINISTRATIVE RULE for RESIDENTIAL CHILD CARE FACILITIES

REQUIRED ACTION: ___ Information Only _x_Time Sensitive _x_ Immediate

NC DHHS recognizes that public and private agencies that are licensed as Residential Child Care Facilities and Residential Maternity Care Homes have been greatly affected by the COVID-19 virus public health crisis. In an attempt to provide guidance and relief wherever possible, NC DHHS will approve waiver requests where allowable by statute or Executive Order regarding the following Administrative Rules for licensing.

The timeframe for completing CPR and first aid classes as defined in 10A NCAC 70I .0405 PERSONNEL POSITIONS (f) (2) (B) may be waived if in-person training is not available. Webbased trainings for certification in first-aid, CPR, or universal precautions cannot be accepted. Staff training as outlined in 10A NCAC 70I .0405 PERSONNEL POSITIONS (f) (2) (C) may be obtained through on-line learning opportunities. If a staff member is unable to complete training requirements a waiver may be requested.

Regarding required in-person contacts as established under 10A NCAC 70I .0502 ADMISSION PROCEDURES, 10A NCAC 70I .0602 FAMILY INVOLVEMENT and 10A NCAC 70K .0204 PROGRAM OF CARE the facility may request a waiver for these contacts to take place by use of virtual technology such as skype or facetime until the state of emergency has been lifted.

Pre-populated waiver request forms containing the Administrative Rules noted above are attached to this letter and should be used to make a request for waiver of these Administrative Rules to the licensing authority. Please add your agency information to the top section of the form. Submit the waiver request for private agency licensing requirements via email to your assigned Program Consultant.

We appreciate your patience as we work to provide consistent and comprehensive information. If you have questions or concerns, please contact your assigned Program Consultant or Linda Waite at linda.waite@dhhs.nc.gov or 704-341-7300.

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

LOCATION: 820 S. Boylan Avenue, McBryde Building, Raleigh, NC 27603 MAILING ADDRESS: 2401 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-2401 www.ncdhhs.gov • TEL: 919-855-6335 • FAX: 919-334-1018 As always, thank you for your dedication to serving children and families.

Sincerely,

Ais Sauley

Lisa Cauley, Deputy Director Child Welfare Services

Attachment: Pre-populated waiver request forms

Cc: Susan G. Osborne, Assistant Secretary for County Operations Carla McNeill, Section Chief for Licensing and Regulatory Teresa Strom, Section Chief for County Operations Linda Waite, Regulatory and Licensing Program Administrator Jodi Franck, Foster Home Licensing Manager

CWS-09-20