



NC DEPARTMENT OF
**HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**

JOSH STEIN • Governor

DEVPUTTA SANGVAI • Secretary

LISA TUCKER CAULEY • Division Director, Human Services

July 30, 2026

DEAR COUNTY DIRECTORS OF SOCIAL SERVICES

**ATTENTION: DIRECTORS, CHILD WELFARE PROGRAM ADMINISTRATORS,
MANAGERS, SUPERVISORS, AND SOCIAL WORKERS**

**SUBJECT: KINNECT FAMILY SEARCH AND ENGAGEMENT TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES
FOR COUNTY CHILD WELFARE AGENCIES AND COURT PARTNERS**

REQUIRED ACTION: ☒ Information Only ☐ Time Sensitive ☐ Immediate

We are excited to continue our partnership with [Kinnect](#), to deliver Family Search and Engagement training. 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. Please see information below for opportunities for county child welfare agencies, as well as separate opportunities for court partners.

Opportunities for *county child welfare agencies*:

1. **IN PERSON TRAINING:** Kinnect facilitated **SEEK** (Search, Engage, Explore, Kinnect) training in all seven (7) regions earlier this year. However, due to inclement weather in January, the Region 7 training was postponed. This training is open to staff from any region, including - child welfare case workers, supervisors, managers, and directors, Intake through Permanency. **SEEK** is a one-day, in-person training designed to equip child welfare professionals with values-based tools for **family search and engagement**.

Location	Date and time	Flyer/Registration
Pasquotank County DSS	8/28/26 from 9am-4pm	CLICK HERE

2. **VIRTUAL TRAINING:** County child welfare agencies are invited to attend *one or both* of the following virtual family search and engagement trainings. All staff are welcome to attend, regardless of attending SEEK training.

Topic	Date and time	Flyer/Registration
Social Media Use in Child Welfare	9/14/26 from 1-4pm	CLICK HERE
Engaging Fathers: Enhancing Family Connections	9/25/26 from 9am-12pm	

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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

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Opportunities for *court partners only*:

We invite you to share an exciting opportunity for *KinFirst Courtrooms* virtual training with court partners. This training is intended for Judges, agency attorneys, parent attorneys, and GAL attorneys/staff/volunteers. Free CLEs are available for attorneys. Both training courses cover the same content, so participants only need to register for one.

Date and time	Flyer/Registration Information
9/11/26 from 12:30-2:30pm	CLICK HERE
9/29/26 from 12:30-2:30pm	

Thank you for your commitment to supporting the safety, well-being, and permanency of children, youth, and families involved with North Carolina's child welfare system. Should you have questions, please contact the State 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

Cc: Lisa T. Cauley, Division Director, Human Services, Child, Family, and Adult Regional Support
Donna Fayko, Deputy Director for Child Welfare Operations
William "Ben" Rose, Lead Regional Director
Kathy Stone, Section Chief for Safety
Kimaree Sanders, Section Chief, Regulatory and Licensing
Heather McAllister, Section Chief for Well-Being
Tammy Shook, Interim Assistant Deputy Director, Child Welfare Services
Meredith Houchins, Interim Section Chief, Operations

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