



NC DEPARTMENT OF
**HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**

JOSH STEIN • Governor

DEVUTA SANGVAI • Secretary

LISA TUCKER CAULEY • Division Director, Human Services

September 14, 2026

Dear County Directors of Social Services

Attention: Directors, Child Welfare Program Administrators, Managers, Supervisors, Social Workers, and Licensed Child Placing 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 statewide. As part of this effort, we launched Partnerships for Permanency on May 12, 2026. This series of in-person and virtual meetings brings public and private partners together to clarify roles, better understand the needs of children, youth, and resource parents, and address barriers to effective collaboration. The goal is to strengthen recruitment and retention efforts and create a more coordinated system of support for children and families.

The next **in-person meetings** will focus on **Targeted Recruitment**. Each session is scheduled to begin at 10:00AM and end at 3:00PM. Dates and locations are as follows:

- **October 6, 2026 - Eastern Region**
Boys and Girls Homes of NC (400 Flemington Dr., Lake Waccamaw, NC 28450)
- **October 7, 2026 - Central Region**
Providence Baptist Church (5315 NC Highway 49 S., Harrisburg, NC 28075)
- **November 5, 2026 - Western Region**
Jackson County DSS (15 Griffin St., Sylva, NC 28779)

To register for the in-person meetings, please click on the following link [Partnerships for Permanency](#) or scan the QR code and complete the registration form.



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Thank you for your ongoing collaboration 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 Tucker Cauley, Division Director Human Services, Child, Family and Adult Regional Support
Donna Fayko, Deputy Director for Child Welfare
Adrian Daye, Section Chief for Permanency
Heather McAllister, Section Chief for Child Well Being
Meredith Houchins, Interim Section Chief for County Operations

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