November 29, 2022

Dear County Directors of Social Services

Attention: Directors, Child Welfare Program Administrators/Managers, and Supervisors

Subject: 2021-2022 Child Welfare Policy & Practice Update

REQUIRED ACTION: ☡ Information Only ☐ Time Sensitive ☐ Immediate


The NC Division of Social Services (NCDSS) is legislatively required to provide child welfare services staff with annual updated information on family-centered practices and state and federal laws. To meet this requirement, the NCDSS will offer a 60-minute mandatory webinar every year recapping the changes to law, policy, and practice during the prior state fiscal year. This webinar is required of all child welfare staff and all who have oversight in child welfare including social workers, supervisors, program managers/administrators, and directors.

The webinar will be on 12/15/2022, from 10:30 AM-11:30 PM and will be entitled “2021-2022 Child Welfare Policy & Practice Update.”

By the end of this event, participants will:
Be aware of the changes to legislation and policy that impacted NC child welfare practice between July 1, 2021- June 30, 2022, including access to links and resources with additional information on each law and policy change.

- Senate Bill 693, Session Law 2021-132 including:
  - Relative & Non-Relative Placements
  - Visitation Requirements
  - Juvenile Consultation Meetings with DJJ and Care Review Team with DJJ
  - Rapid Response Team
- House Bill 132, Session Law 100 including:
  - Sibling Placement & Visitation
  - Court Requirements for 17-year-old Juveniles
  - Termination Process for the 18-21 Agreements
Audience: Child welfare social workers, supervisors, program managers/administrators, and directors employed in North Carolina County DSS agencies.

Presenters: Nora Carter NCDSS, Peter West NCDSS, Tracey Brenneman NCDSS

Registration and Training Credit for County DSS Child Welfare Professionals: To participate in and receive credit for the live webinar through ncswlearn.org, you must preregister no later than December 12, 2022. Space is limited and registration may close earlier if we reach maximum capacity. You must preregister even if you are joining the webinar as part of a group. To preregister:

- Log in to your account on http://www.ncswLearn.org,
- Select “Personalized Learning Portfolio (PLP),”
- Select the “Webinar” option, and
- Click the “apply for registration” button.

To participate in this webinar a computer must have: (1) external speakers or headphones (to avoid disturbing others); (2) broadband Internet access.

NOTE:
- The live webinar will be recorded and made available on ncswLearn.org. Questions will be pulled from the live chat to create a FAQ document that will be available with the recording. The recording can be accessed at any time without registration.

For more information on how to apply to participate, please e-mail Vicky Chang (vjchang@email.unc.edu).

Sincerely,

Peter L. West
Peter L. West, ThM.
Section Chief for County Operations
Division of Social Services
North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services

Cc: Susan Osborne, Assistant Secretary for Human Services
Lisa T. Cauley, Senior Director for Child, Family and Adult Services
Adrian Daye, Deputy Director for Child Welfare Practice
Tammy Shook, Interim Deputy Director for County Operations/Regulatory & Licensing
Kathy Stone, Section Chief for Safety and Prevention Services
Kimaree Sanders, Interim Section Chief for Regulatory & Licensing
Carla McNeill, Section Chief for Permanency Planning
Crystalle Williams, Manager for Staff Development

CWS_71_2022