

JOSH STEIN • Governor

DEVDUTTA SANGVAI • Secretary

LISA TUCKER CAULEY • Division Director, Human Services

December 11, 2025

## **DEAR COUNTY DIRECTORS OF SOCIAL SERVICES**

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

SUBJECT: KINNECT FAMILY SEARCH AND ENGAGEMENT TRAINING

PURPOSE/BACKGROUND: TRAINING REGISTRATION FOR REGIONS 4-7 AND CALL FOR HOSTS FOR FUTURE TRAINING DATES

**REQUIRED ACTION:** ☑ **Information Only** ☐ Time Sensitive ☐ Immediate

We are excited to continue our partnership with <u>Kinnect</u>, an Ohio-based nonprofit dedicated to enhancing child welfare practices, to provide Family Search and Engagement training to our child welfare workforce. This furthers our prioritization to equipe our workforce with the tools and strategies that promote a *KinFirst* culture and strengthen kinship connections and deliver lasting results for families and children. Agencies will have opportunities to attend regional trainings in January and February, with additional sessions offered later in 2026.

## TRAINING DATES AND REGISTRATION LINKS

Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis for the first 60 registrants per region. Training is from 9am-4pm with a one-hour lunch break. This training is open to all child welfare caseworkers, supervisors, managers, directors, and administrators.

REGION	DATE	LOCATION	REGISTRATION LINK
4	1/29/26	Rowan County DSS	
		1813 E. Innes St, Salisbury, 28146	
5	1/28/26	Community Center at Pitt County Office Park	
		403 Government Circle, Greenville, 27834	Click here to register and select the date
6	1/26/26	Pender County, Cooperative Extension Auditorium	you will attend in the registration.
		801 S. Walker St, Burgaw 28425	you will atteria in the registration.
7	1/27/26	Bertie County DSS	
		110 Jasper Bazemore Ave, Windsor 27983	

<sup>\*\*</sup>Regions 1-3 will occur 2/17-2/19 and locations and registration will be released in a future DCDL.

## **CALL FOR HOSTS:**

We continue to seek county child welfare agencies in each region to volunteer to host these regional training sessions that will occur between January and August 2026. Spaces must accommodate up to 60 attendees and include technology to support laptop connection, PowerPoint display, and audio playback. If you hosted last year and are willing to host again, please let us know. We appreciate each of the counties who have hosted thus far. If your agency is interested, please contact <a href="mailto:jessica.Frisina@dhhs.nc.gov">jessica.Frisina@dhhs.nc.gov</a> and <a href="mailto:jessica.burke@kinnectohio.org">jessica.burke@kinnectohio.org</a>.

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

Please stay tuned for further communications in the coming weeks. For questions, please contact the NCDHHS DSS Foster Care Coordinator, Jessica Frisina at Jessica.Frisina@dhhs.nc.gov.

Sincerely,

Adrian W. Daye, MSW

Advianted Days

Deputy Director for Child Welfare Practice 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 Operations William "Ben" Rose, Lead Regional Director Kimaree Sanders, Section Chief for Regulatory and Licensing Kathy Stone, Section Chief for Safety Heather McAllister, Section Chief for Child and Family Services

CWS-83-25

Attachments: Kinnect Region 4

Kinnect Region 5 Kinnect Region 6 Kinnect Region 7