

ROY COOPER • Governor MANDY COHEN, MD, MPH • Secretary MICHAEL BECKETTS • Assistant Secretary for Human Services

January 15, 2019

## DEAR COUNTY DIRECTORS OF SOCIAL SERVICES

## DEAR EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS OF LICENSED CHILD PLACING AGENCIES

ATTENTION: CHILD WELFARE STAFF INVOLVED IN DILIGENT RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION OF FOSTER AND ADOPTIVE FAMILIES

SUBJECT: DILIGENT RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION QUARTERLY PEER-TO-PEER CALLS

## **REQUIRED ACTION: Information Only**

As a strategy within North Carolina's Diligent Recruitment and Retention Plan, the Division of Social Services will host quarterly diligent recruitment and retention peer to peer calls. This strategy was developed as a direct result of the feedback received at statewide stakeholder meetings where there were requests and feedback for additional opportunities for cross agency information sharing, communication, and connection within this subject area. This strategy directly addresses the goal of providing excellent customer service to internal and external stakeholders. These calls are intended as a forum for front line staff and supervisors to learn from and discuss with their peers across the state different aspects of diligent recruitment and retention of foster and adoptive parents. The calls will occur every October, January, April, and July ongoing, and will be facilitated by the NC Kids team.

The next call will be held on Tuesday, January 22, 2019 from 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

This call will focus on Keeping Connections, Preparing Teens for Permanence, and Supports for both teens and the foster parents who care for them. Speakers will discuss creative strategies for recruitment and ongoing support for foster parents, assisting teens in creating and maintaining lifetime connections with caring adults, and overall preparation for permanence. We will also check-in regarding the implementation of localized Diligent Recruitment and Retention Plans, including updates in our Data Corner.

Please pre-register for the call at: https://attendee.gototraining.com/r/249729173484876034

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: 919-527-6335 • FAX: 919-334-1018 Should you have questions, please contact your County's NC Kids Consultant or Mary Mackins at (919) 527-6287 or <u>Mary.Mackins@dhhs.nc.gov</u>.

Sincerely,

Lisw Sauley

Lisa T. Cauley Deputy Director for Child Welfare Division of Social Services

Cc: Michael Becketts, Assistant Secretary for Human Services Kristin O'Connor, Section Chief, Policy and Programs Erin Baluyot, Interim Adoption Services Manager CWS Team Leaders

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