

ROY COOPER • Governor

MANDY COHEN, MD, MPH . Secretary

SUSAN OSBORNE • Assistant Secretary for County Operations for Human Services

March 14, 2019

DEAR COUNTY DIRECTORS OF SOCIAL SERVICES

ATTENTION: DIRECTORS, PROGRAM MANAGERS, AND CHILD WELFARE PROFESSIONALS

SUBJECT: INDIAN CHILD WELFARE GATHERING 2019

REQUIRED ACTION: ___ Information Only <u>X</u> Time Sensitive (04/04/2019) ___ Immediate

The North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services Division of Social Services is pleased to share that the North Carolina Commission of Indian Affairs is hosting the 2019 Indian Child Welfare Gathering. The theme for this year is, "Protecting Our Native Children: It takes a Village to be a community". The "Gathering" will be a culture preservation approach toward improving relations and capacity building among the North Carolina Indian Tribes and the NC Department of Health & Human Services regarding Indian Child Welfare.

The gathering will be held in Clinton, NC, on April 4, 2019, from 8:30 a.m.to 3:00 pm at The Sampson County Agri-Exposition Center, located at 414 Warsaw Road, Clinton, NC 28328. Registration is free but is required due to limited seating. Tribal enrollment personnel, department of social service employees, guardians ad litem, and the tribal community are encouraged to attend. To register, follow this link: <u>www.nciscc.com</u> or register by phone with Nikki Locklear at (919) 807-4448.

Should you have questions or need additional information, please contact Annie M. Francis, Indian Child Welfare Program Director, 919-807-4992, or <u>Annie.Francis@doa.nc.gov</u>, at the NC Commission of Indian Affairs, or Peter West, Children's Program Representative at (828) 294-1061 or <u>peter.west@dhhs.nc.gov</u>.

Sincerely,

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Lisa T. Cauley Deputy Director for Child Welfare

CWS-12-2019

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

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