

### DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES DIVISION OF SOCIAL SERVICES CHILD WELFARE SERVICES

ROY COOPER GOVERNOR MANDY COHEN, MD, MPH Secretary

> WAYNE E. BLACK DIRECTOR

April 12, 2018

### 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 – FOR 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, April 24<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

The theme of this call is **Reaching Outside the Box**. Stacy Burch from Guilford County DSS and Jolee Faison from Wake County DSS will share ways to achieve effective out-of-state placements; information on having difficult conversations with teens who do not want to be adopted and/or do not want to move; considering families whom we may not initially think would be the right fit for a child; and checking our own biases and assumptions. Additional agenda topics for this call include a check-in regarding Diligent Recruitment and Retention Plans and updates on data and the Data Program Planning Tool.

Please pre-register for the call at <u>https://attendee.gototraining.com/r/8590780505521963522</u>. Additional registration directions and how to access the call are included in Attachment 1.

> WWW.NCDHHS.GOV TEL 919-527-6340 • FAX 919-715-6714 Location: 820 S. Boylan Ave. • McBryde Building • Raleigh, NC 27603 Mailing Address: 2406 Mail Service Center • Raleigh, NC 27699-2406 An Equal Opportunity / Affirmative Action Employer

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, Line Sauley

Lisa Cauley

CWS-15-2018

Attachments: Attachment 1 – Registration Directions