

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

October 17, 2017

Dear County Director of Social Services:

Subject: The Webinar "Talking with Young People in Foster Care about Adoption"

On **Thursday**, Nov. 9, from 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. the NC Division of Social Services, Child Welfare in partnership with the Jordan Institute for Families at the UNC School of Social Work, will offer the 90-minute webinar "Talking with Young People in Foster Care about Adoption."

When young people in foster care tell us they don't want to be adopted, what should be our next step? How do we make them feel heard, respect their views, and still do our utmost to help them achieve permanence in a timely way? This 90-minute webinar will profile effective child-focused adoption preparation activities in use in North Carolina today and teach concrete strategies for what to say, what to try, where to turn when young people say "no" to the idea of adoption.

Audience: Foster care and adoption professionals from public and private child-placing agencies in NC

<u>Presenters</u>: Mary Mackins, from the NC Kids Team at the NC Division of Social Services; Bobbette Willis, from Mecklenburg County Department of Social Services; and Diane Delafield and Brandon Nivens, from the Under One Sky Village Foundation.

<u>Registration and Training Credit</u>: To receive credit through ncswlearn.org, you **must** preregister for this webinar no later than Nov. 1, 2017. You must preregister even if you are joining the webinar as part of a group. To preregister:

- Log in to your account* on <u>http://www.ncswLearn.org</u>,
- Select "Personalized Learning Portfolio (PLP),"
- Select the "Webinar" option, and
- Click the "apply for registration" button.
- If you do not have an account, you can create one on <u>http://www.ncswLearn.org</u>

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Attention: Foster care and adoption professionals from public and private child-placing agencies in North Carolina

To participate in this webinar a computer must have: (1) external speakers or headphones (to avoid disturbing others); (2) broadband Internet access; (3) latest version of Adobe Flash Player.

We look forward to providing this important event. If you need further information on how to apply to participate, please e-mail Vicky Chang (vjchang@email.unc.edu).

Sincerely,

Lin A. Cauley

Lisa T. Cauley, Deputy Director Child Welfare Services

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