

North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services Division of Social Services

325 North Salisbury Street • MSC 2409 • Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-2409

Courier # 56-20-25

Michael F. Easley, Governor Dempsey Benton, Secretary Sherry S. Bradsher, Director (919) 733-3055

June 19, 2008

MEMORANDUM:

County Directors of Social Services Adoption Supervisors Contracted Private Agency for Special Needs Adoption District Court Judges

SUBJECT: POST ADOPTION CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENT October 3-5, 2008

The North Carolina Division of Social Services is pleased to announce our 4th conference on Post Adoption Services. The Conference will be held from **October 3-5, 2008 at the Sheraton Greensboro (Koury Convention Center), Greensboro, North Carolina.** It will provide opportunities for adoptive parents **AND** their children, child welfare social workers, and adoption advocates to share and network while learning about post adoption resources and attending adoption centered workshops. Children/youth will participate in supervised activities and workshops separate from their parents during day sessions.

The Division will sponsor up to **250** families who have adopted children from the child welfare system, **25** child welfare social workers or managers from county departments of social services, **one** director from each county department of social services, **one** social worker or manager from each private adoption agency contracting with the Division to provide special needs adoption services, and any district court judge interested in attending the conference. *The sponsorship includes hotel, meals and travel.* Social workers from both public and private agencies will be asked to assist in different capacities at the conference. Since we cannot accommodate any more participants, we will not accept requests from other interested individuals.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS ANNOUNCEMENT DOES NOT SERVE AS YOUR CONFERENCE REGISTRATION. If you are interested in attending the 2008 Post Adoption Conference and would like to request a registration packet, return the enclosed postcard to this office by July 9, 2008. All registration packets will be mailed the week of July 28th to all who returned the postcard by the due date. Conference participants will be chosen on a *first-come, first served basis from applicants who COMPLETE the registration package in its entirety and return it*. Once we reach the limit for each category, subsequent applications will be placed on a waiting list.

The Division will send notices to all eligible adoptive parents and therefore county departments of social services and private adoption agencies <u>SHOULD NOT</u> send notice and postcards to adoptive parents. If you need additional information, please contact Tamika Williams at (919) 733-2580 or <u>Tamika.Williams@ncmail.net</u>.

The Division is very excited about the opportunity to sponsor another conference. We hope you will come away from the conference with renewed energy, lots of information and better equipped to handle the many rewards and challenges of adoption.

Sincerely,

Chausse S. Johnson

Charisse S. Johnson, Chief Family Support and Child Welfare Services

csj/tw

Attachment Post Adoption Conference Flyer

cc: Sherry S. Bradsher Sarah Barham Local Business Liaisons Managers Jo Ann Lamm Children' Services Program Representatives Family Support and Child Welfare Services Team Leaders Work First Representatives Hank Bowers Local Domestic Violence Agencies

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