



# CHILD WELFARE UPDATE

APRIL 8, 2015

# CPS in Child Care Settings

- ▶ A bill has been drafted but has not yet been introduced
- ▶ Assessments will move to DCDEE
- ▶ Introduction is expected

# S424: Foster Care Expansion for 19 Olds

- ▶ Full foster care coverage will be extended through a foster child's 19<sup>th</sup> birthday
- ▶ It would require continued
  - ▶ Monthly caseworker visits
  - ▶ Permanency Planning Action Team meetings
- ▶ The Court will determine what is in the child's best interest

# S423: Foster Care Family Act

- ▶ Designed to allow normalcy for children in foster care to engage in activities any child would be able to, such as:
  - ▶ Engaging in extra curricular, enrichment, and social activities
  - ▶ Could include activities not under the direct supervision of foster parents or other caregivers
  - ▶ Release of liability under a reasonable and prudent parenting standard
- ▶ Allow caregivers to exercise other parenting responsibilities related to education and sharing information
- ▶ Liability insurance for foster parents
- ▶ Reduce driving barriers for foster children

# Other Child Welfare Projects

- ▶ Evaluation of NC's CPS RFP in final stages
  - ▶ Includes study of CPS Intake, Assessment, and In Home
  - ▶ Preliminary questions by potential vendors addressed
  - ▶ Closing date on the RFP is April 22, 2015
- ▶ No current update on CPS Pilot Project
- ▶ MOA completed with Mexican Consulate completed. There is a Dear County Director Letter being issued shortly on it.
- ▶ Access to the NCCCN Informatics Portal is now available for foster children. There is a Dear County Director Letter from the Director's Office with more detail on executing a TECCA to access this valuable resource.

# April in Child Abuse Prevention Month

- ▶ This year's theme is **Building Great Childhoods**
- ▶ The pinwheel is the symbol for the Child Abuse Prevention month
- ▶ Resources for local programs can be found on the Prevent Child Abuse NC website
- ▶ Reporting suspected child abuse and neglect has frequently been found as an area in which community education is needed so this is a great opportunity to share the community's responsibility for protecting children.