



North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services  
Division of Aging and Adult Services

Pat McCrory  
Governor

Aldona Z. Vos, M.D.  
Ambassador (Ret.)  
Secretary DHHS  
Dennis Streets  
Division Director

January 22, 2014

**DEAR COUNTY DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES**

**ATTENTION: ADULT SERVICES SUPERVISORS AND PROGRAM MANAGERS**

**SUBJECT: PUBLIC GUARDIANSHIP AD-HOC WORKGROUP REPORT**

I am pleased to share the "Public Guardianship Ad-Hoc Workgroup Report" with you. As you may recall, early last year NC DHHS Secretary Aldona Vos charged the Division of Aging and Adult Services with convening a workgroup to examine the current system for public guardianship and recommend how best to administer this service in the future. The workgroup was convened and met regularly over the course of several months. This report reflects their work  
[http://www.ncdhhs.gov/aging/pub/guard\\_adhoc\\_workgroup.pdf](http://www.ncdhhs.gov/aging/pub/guard_adhoc_workgroup.pdf).

Stakeholders who participated in the workgroup included representatives of the NC Association of County Directors of Social Services, the NC Guardianship Association, the NC Conference of Clerks of Superior Court, guardianship corporations and the NC Division of Mental Health/Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse. Other organizations, such as UNC School of Government and NC Administrative Office of the Courts, assisted with research and technical support.

We hope you and your staff will review this report carefully and share it, as appropriate, with other community partners. We look forward to an ongoing collaboration with all stakeholders around this important issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Suzanne P. Merrill".

Suzanne P. Merrill, Chief  
Adult Services Section

SPM/nw

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