



NC DEPARTMENT OF
**HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**
Division of Social Services

ROY COOPER • Governor

MANDY COHEN, MD, MPH • Secretary

SUSAN OSBORNE • Assistant Secretary for County
Operations for Human Services

May 18, 2021

DEAR COUNTY DIRECTORS OF SOCIAL SERVICES

**ATTENTION: DIRECTORS, CHILD WELFARE PROGRAM ADMINISTRATORS, MANAGERS,
SUPERVISORS, AND SOCIAL WORKERS**

SUBJECT: MAY 2021 IS NATIONAL FOSTER CARE MONTH

REQUIRED ACTION: Information Only

PURPOSE:

May is National Foster Care Month, a time to acknowledge child welfare professionals for the work you do to enhance the lives of children and youth in foster care. Foster Care Month also provides the opportunity to celebrate and acknowledge the countless foster families, kinship caregivers, and other caring individuals who make a meaningful difference in the lives of these children. This year, the theme is *“Foster Care as a Support to Families, Not a Substitute for Parents.”*

In support of this month, the North Carolina Division of Social Services (NC DSS) is excited to announce a special webinar – *Permanency Matters: Shared Parenting*. Shared parenting is an ongoing alliance among the most important people in the child’s or youth’s life. Maintaining these important connections assist a child or youth build a positive self-identity and positive family, cultural, and racial identity.

Please join us as Rowan County provides a presentation and discussion on shared parenting which will include field and lived experience. The event will be held on **Thursday, May 27, 2021** from **9:00am-10:30am**. Please register for the presentation at:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5727781995131593485>.

Thank you for your interest and should you have any questions, please contact Kimaree Sanders at Kimaree.Sanders@dhhs.nc.gov.

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LOCATION: 820 S. Boylan Avenue, McBryde Building, Raleigh, NC 27603
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AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY / AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER

Sincerely,

Carla McNeill

Carla McNeill, MSW
Section Chief for Permanency Planning
Division of Social Services, Child Welfare
North Carolina Department of Health and Human
Services

Cc: Susan Osborne, Assistant Secretary for County Operations
Lisa Cauley, Senior Director for Child, Family and Adult Services
Teresa Strom, Section Chief for County Operations
Kathy Stone, Section Chief for Safety and Prevention
Linda Waite, Section Chief for Licensing and Regulatory

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