



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

June 25, 2021

DEAR COUNTY DIRECTORS OF SOCIAL SERVICES

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

SUBJECT: Resources for Kinship Families

REQUIRED ACTION: Information Only Time Sensitive Immediate

PURPOSE: Sharing of Resources and Supports for Kinship Families

Kinship families are vital to increasing placement stability and decreasing the effects of trauma on children. Here in North Carolina, efforts are underway to remove barriers to kinship placements, allowing kinship families to safely care for children and maintain important family connections. As North Carolina Division of Social Services continues to engage our kinship families across the State, we want to share resources and opportunities regarding available services and supports to the families.

Generations United is hosting a **COVID-19 Listening Session** with Grandfamilies/Kinship Families, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), and the U.S. Department of Education (ED). This will be a unique opportunity to have questions about school re-openings and COVID-19 vaccines answered directly from leaders at CDC and ED. Please share this opportunity with grandfamilies and other service providers who work directly with the families. The listening session will be **Tuesday, June 29, 2021, from 11 AM to 12 PM.**

Register for this meeting at the following link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0tceutpjoigdcK9BNOWBYBOPjOThWUQy2r>

If you need assistance in registering or would like additional information, please visit

<https://www.gu.org/covid-19/>

We encourage you to attend a virtual event, Kinship Navigator Partnerships, on **Wednesday, July 7, 2021, from 2:30 to 3:45 p.m.** During this event you will have the opportunity to learn about critical resources available to support kinship families, including respite and childcare services.

Follow the hyperlink to register for this event: **[Kinship Navigator Partnerships: Supporting Kinship Families Through Respite and Child Care Services.](#)**

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LOCATION: 820 S. Boylan Avenue, McBryde Building, Raleigh, NC 27603

MAILING ADDRESS: 2409 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-2409

www.ncdhhs.gov • TEL: 919-527-6390 • FAX: 919-733-3052

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NC DSS would like to share important information regarding **Child Tax Credit Payments** for families. Generations United has created and updated the attached two-page document with information about the Child Tax Credit that's specific to kinship families/grandfamilies.

Child Tax Credit payments will be available to families starting July 15, 2021. To qualify for the advance Child Tax Credit payments, you must have:

- Filed a 2019 or 2020 tax return and claimed the Child Tax Credit on the return; **or**
- Given information in 2020 to receive the Economic Impact Payment using the Non-Filers: Enter Payment Info Here tool; **and**
- A main home in the United States for more than half the year (the 50 states and the District of Columbia) or file a joint return with a spouse who has a main home in the United States for more than half the year; **and**
- A qualifying child who is under age 18 at the end of 2021 and has a valid Social Security number; **and**
- Made less than certain income limits.

Families should visit <https://www.whitehouse.gov/child-tax-credit/> to learn more about this important benefit.

Thank you for your continued support of kinship families and should you have any questions, please contact the state Permanency Coordinator Mary Mackins at Mary.Mackins@dhhs.nc.gov.

Sincerely,

Carla McNeill

Carla McNeill, MSW
Section Chief for Permanency Planning

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

Attachments:

Grandfamilies and Child Tax Credit

CWS-22-2021

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