



NC DEPARTMENT OF
**HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**

ROY COOPER • Governor

KODY H. KINSLEY • Secretary

SUSAN G. OSBORNE • Assistant Secretary for Human Services

January 23, 2023

DEAR COUNTY DIRECTORS OF SOCIAL SERVICES

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

**SUBJECT: PERMANENCY MATTERS TRAINING SERIES THROUGH THE NC PERMANENCY
INNOVATION INITIATIVE**

REQUIRED ACTION: Information Only Time Sensitive Immediate

In 2013, the North Carolina General Assembly included a special provision in the State's biennium budget, "A Family for Every Child," which establishes the Permanency Innovation Initiative (PII) Fund in N.C.G.S. § 131D-10.9B. This legislation requires the Children's Home Society (CHS) of North Carolina to provide the services identified in the PII, by partnership with the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NC DHHS), North Carolina Division of Social Services (NCDSS). The overarching purpose of PII is to improve permanency outcomes for children experiencing foster care.

One of the strategies PII utilizes is through Permanency Training Services. These services are delivered by CHS to support county departments of social services to implement the permanency strategies under N.C.G.S. § 131D-10.9B, advance permanency-focused services for children in the legal custody of county departments of social services and provide training and support services to caregivers and family members who are supporting the permanency goal of children in the legal custody of county departments of social services.

Further information about registration and the training dates can be found in the attached flyer.

Part 1: Making Permanency Happen

The Permanency Innovation Initiative (PII) was established to serve the youth in our state most at risk of aging out, with a focus on the longest waiting youth. The first training in the Permanency Matters series seeks to break down the myth that some youth are "unadoptable" and best served by APPLA or independent living. Participants will have the opportunity to hear how the Child-Focused Recruitment model is implemented in challenging cases and will leave the training with information about the eligibility requirements for youth and counties interested in accessing the service.

Part 2: Partnerships for Permanency

Successful partnership takes work. The second training in the Permanency Matters series highlights the essential role of strong partnerships in successful permanency outcomes. Each member of a child and family team brings important knowledge, perspective, and experience to the table. This training

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

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uses a combination of lecture, discussion, activities, and video to examine barriers and facilitators of effective collaboration. Participants will leave with the ability to articulate their own role in permanency teamwork and identify specific actions to take for greatest impact.

Part 3: Complex Trauma: Domains of Impact and Permanency

Youth in foster care, and especially those longest-waiting youth in care, are very likely to have experienced complex trauma. The third training in the Permanency Matters series looks at the impacts of this type of trauma – complex trauma impacts to eight unique domains of functioning – each of which can impact a successful permanency outcome. Participants in this training will be challenged to “connect the dots” between complex trauma and permanency outcomes on their own caseloads and identify action steps to build on strengths and minimize risks.

Thank you for your commitment to supporting the permanency of children in North Carolina’s child welfare system. Should you have questions about the Permanency Innovations Initiative, please contact Jessica Frisina at Jessica.Frisina@dhhs.nc.gov.

Sincerely,

Carla McNeill

Carla McNeill
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 Human Services
Lisa Tucker Cauley, Senior Director of Child, Family and Adult Services
Adrian Daye, Deputy Director for Child Welfare Practice
Tammy Shook, Interim Deputy Director for County Operations
Kathy Stone, Section Chief for Safety and Prevention Services
Kimaree Sanders, Interim Section Chief for Regulatory and Licensing
Peter West, Section Chief for County Operations

Attachment:
Permanency Matters New Training Series Part 1 of 3

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