



NC DEPARTMENT OF
**HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**

ROY COOPER • Governor

KODY H. KINSLEY • Secretary

SUSAN OSBORNE • Assistant Secretary for County Operations for
Human Services

April 20, 2022

DEAR COUNTY DIRECTORS OF SOCIAL SERVICES

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

SUBJECT: PERMANENCY PLANNING POLICY UPDATES

REQUIRED ACTION: Information Only Time Sensitive **Immediate**

PURPOSE: NOTIFICATION OF PERMANENCY PLANNING POLICY UPDATES

The Division is committed to providing counties with protocol and guidance to support compliance with the law and best practice of child welfare services. There were changes to the law regarding child welfare during the 2021 legislative season. All the law changes have gone into effect and the policy is effective immediately. Furthermore, to ensure that accuracy and consistency occurs throughout the Permanency Planning Manual, certain policy topics have been revised and rewritten.

The revised changes in the Permanency Planning Manual include:

- Addition of the Foster Parents' Bill of Rights throughout the manual
- Consistency throughout the manual regarding the protocol for Child and Family Team (CFT) meetings with supplementary guidance
- Addition of a hyperlink to Appendix 3.5 Child Welfare Funding-Foster Care under the IV-E Eligibility Determination Process for Foster Care 18-21

Next Steps:

To assist with the implementation of the recent policy changes, the policy revisions will be discussed during the May 26, 2022, Policy to Practice Office Hours workgroup on Go-To-Training. If you are unable to attend, you may access the recorded webinar online following the workgroup session at <https://www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/social-services/county-staff-information/policy-office-hours>.

Should you have questions about the Foster Parents' Bill of Rights, please contact Mary Torr at mary.torr@dhhs.nc.gov.

All other questions regarding the policy changes should be directed to Margaret Knight at margaret.knight@dhhs.nc.gov

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AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY / AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER

Sincerely,

Kimaree Sanders

Kimaree Sanders, MSW, MPA
Interim Section Chief for Regulatory and Licensing
Division of Social Services, Child Welfare
North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services

Cc: Susan Osborne, Assistant Secretary for County Operations
Lisa T. Cauley, Senior Director of Child, Family and Adult Services
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Adrian Daye, Deputy Director for Child Welfare Practice
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