



NC DEPARTMENT OF
**HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**

JOSH STEIN • Governor

DEV DUTTA SANGVAI • Secretary

LISA TUCKER CAULEY • Division Director, Human Services

April 24, 2025

DEAR COUNTY DIRECTORS OF SOCIAL SERVICES

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

SUBJECT: Newly Published Evidence- Based Prevention Services Policy

REQUIRED ACTION: Information Only Time Sensitive Action Required

North Carolina Division of Social Services is committed to providing services that prevent entry into foster care. Evidence-Based Title IV-E Prevention Services support this goal and are IV-E reimbursable under the Family First Prevention Services Act to cover certain expenditures and services related to preventing foster care placements. Evidence-Based Prevention Services should be considered as an option for all cases in which a child(ren) is determined to be a candidate for foster care during the provision of In-Home services.

The first service to become available under this new federal IV-E funding stream is Homebuilders. Homebuilders is an intensive family preservation program that has shown, when used to fidelity, to support families with stabilizing crises that place children at risk of out of home placement.

To support Child Welfare workers, supervisors, program managers and administrators with completing the required Title IV-E Prevention Services eligibility determination process for the new programs, NC DSS has developed and posted the Evidence-Based Prevention Services policy.

The Evidence-Based Prevention Services Policy can be found on the Child Welfare Manuals site under [Evidence-Based Prevention Services](#) and covers the following.

- History and Purpose
- Legal Basis
- Determining Eligibility for Evidence-Based Prevention Service
- Case Criteria for Evidence-Based Prevention Services
- North Carolina In-Home Family Case Plan Content
- Homebuilders Policy
- Case Criteria for Homebuilders Services

To support the implementation of this new policy, Prevention Specialist staff will provide office hours on:

- Tuesday, May 13 from 3pm-4pm [Register Here](#)
- Friday, May 23 from 10am-11am [Register Here](#)
- Wednesday, May 28 from 4pm-5pm [Register Here](#)

NC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES • DIVISION OF SOCIAL SERVICES

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

MAILING ADDRESS: 2401 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-2401

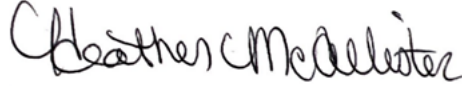
www.ncdhhs.gov • TEL: 919-855-6335 • FAX: 919-334-1018

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY / AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER

Information about the Family First Prevention Services Act in North Carolina can be found on the state's website: <https://www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/social-services/child-welfare-services/family-first-prevention-services-act>.

If there are any questions regarding the policy, please contact Heather McAllister, Section Chief for Child and Family Services, Heather.McAllister@dhhs.nc.gov

Sincerely,



Heather McAllister, MSW, LCSW, LCAS, CBIS
Section Chief for Child and Family Services
Division of Social Services, Child Welfare
North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services

Cc: Lisa T. Cauley, Division Director, Human Services, Child, Family, and Adult, Regional Support
Adrian Daye, Deputy Director for Child Welfare Practice
Donna Fayko, Deputy Director for Child Welfare Operations
William "Ben" Rose, Lead Regional Director
Kathy Stone, Section Chief for Safety
Kimaree Sanders, Section Chief for Regulatory and Licensing
Peter West, Section Chief for County Operations

CWS-24-2025

NC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES • DIVISION OF SOCIAL SERVICES

LOCATION: 820 S. Boylan Avenue, McBryde Building, Raleigh, NC 27603
MAILING ADDRESS: 2401 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-2401
www.ncdhhs.gov • TEL: 919-855-6335 • FAX: 919-334-1018

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY / AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER