



NC DEPARTMENT OF  
**HEALTH AND  
HUMAN SERVICES**

ROY COOPER • Governor  
KODY H. KINSLEY • Secretary  
SUSAN G. OSBORNE • Assistant Secretary for Human Services

May 10, 2023

**DEAR COUNTY DIRECTORS OF SOCIAL SERVICES**

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

**SUBJECT: MAY IS NATIONAL FOSTER CARE MONTH**

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

Governor Roy Cooper has proclaimed May as Foster Care Month and May 2<sup>nd</sup> as Foster Care Awareness Day for our State. North Carolina Division of Social Services (NCDSS) would like to express our sincere appreciation and gratitude for Governor Cooper's time and his commitment to the children, youth, and families of North Carolina. NCDSS is excited to celebrate all families that have opened their homes and hearts to foster care.

**National Foster Care Month Website** (<https://www.childwelfare.gov/fostercaremonth>): The Children's Bureau recognizes and acknowledges the important roles that impact our children, youth, and families. This year's theme is "**Strengthening Minds–Uplifting Families**" which highlights the need to take a holistic and culturally responsive approach to supporting the mental health needs of those involved with child welfare. The Children's Bureau, in collaboration with its information services, Child Welfare Information Gateway, provides resources and information to assist in ensuring a positive future for our children and youth in foster care. Resources include, but are not limited to, outreach materials, inspirational stories through Reflections, and a community engagement page.

Thank you for your commitment to supporting the safety, well-being, and permanency of children, youth, and families involved with North Carolina's child welfare system. Should you have questions, please contact the State Foster Care Coordinator, Jessica Frisina at [Jessica.Frisina@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto: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

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

LOCATION: 820 S. Boylan Avenue, McBryde Building, Raleigh, NC 27603  
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[www.ncdhhs.gov](http://www.ncdhhs.gov) • TEL: 919-855-6335 • FAX: 919-334-1018

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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, Section Chief for Regulatory and Licensing  
Peter West, Section Chief for County Operations

Attachment: Foster Care Month and Foster Care Awareness Day

CWS-26-2023

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