



NC DEPARTMENT OF
**HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**

ROY COOPER • Governor

KODY H. KINSLEY • Secretary

LISA TUCKER CAULEY • Division Director, Human Services

June 13, 2024

DEAR COUNTY DIRECTORS OF SOCIAL SERVICES

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

SUBJECT: JUNE IS NATIONAL REUNIFICATION MONTH AND FATHERHOOD AWARENESS MONTH

REQUIRED ACTION: Information Only Time Sensitive Immediate

PURPOSE/BACKGROUND: Information and resources related to National Foster Care Month.

Governor Roy Cooper has proclaimed June as Fatherhood Awareness Month. 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 also recognizes June as Reunification Month.

NATIONAL REUNIFICATION MONTH WEBSITES:

- The Children's Bureau (CB) recognizes and promotes Reunification Month. Children's Bureau released a bulletin on 6/5/24 that provides publications, resources, and outreach tools on CB's website.
Website: <https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USACFCWIG/bulletins/3a0b158>
- The American Bar Association (ABA) recognizes National Family Unification Month and this year's message and focus is "Let's Celebrate Unified Families." The ABA provides resources including, but not limited to, outreach materials, webinars, social media toolkits, inspirational stories through Reflections, and a community engagement page.
Website: https://www.americanbar.org/groups/public_interest/child_law/project-areas/national-reunification-month/

FATHERHOOD ENGAGEMENT RESOURCES:

- The National Responsible Fatherhood Clearinghouse (NRFC) is an Office of Family Assistance funded national resource for fathers, practitioners, programs/Federal grantees, states, and the public-at-large who are serving or interested in supporting strong fathers and families. The NRFC website provides several resources, webinars, and literature available for review.
Website: <https://www.fatherhood.gov/>
- The Capacity Building Center for States is hosting a webinar on 6/13/24 titled "The Power of Action Teams: Creating and Sustaining Father Inclusion in Child Welfare." This event will give participants the opportunity to learn more about action teams and hear from Center Family Consultants, all self-

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identified fathers, and jurisdictional representatives about the inclusion of fathers in child welfare systems. Additional information and registration can be found at <https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USACFCBCS/bulletins/39f3999>.

- The North Carolina Fatherhood Conference is being held on Saturday, June 15th. This event is designed to celebrate and support fathers in their journey through parenthood. The conference is in-person and free to attend. Registration and additional information about guest speakers and workshops can be found at www.ncfatherhood.com.

Included with this communication, please find the following informational items:

- Proclamation from Governor Roy Cooper declaring June to be Fatherhood Awareness Month

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.

Sincerely,



Adrian W. Daye

Deputy Director for Child Welfare Practice
Division of Social Services, Child Welfare
North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services

Cc: Lisa Tucker Cauley, Senior Director of Human Services
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:

Proclamation from Governor Roy Cooper declaring June to be Fatherhood Awareness Month

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