



North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Social Services

325 North Salisbury Street • 2410 Mail Service Center • Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-2410
Courier # 2410

Michael F. Easley, Governor
Carmen Hooker Buell, Secretary

E. C. Modlin, ACSW, Director
(919) 733-3055

March 30, 2001

DEAR COUNTY DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES

**ATTENTION: Children's Services Social Workers
Children's Services Supervisors**

SUBJECT: American Humane Association Roundtable

We are pleased to announce the 2001 Family Group Decision Making (FGDM) Roundtable to be held June 6-9, 2001 in Chapel Hill, NC. Sponsored by the American Humane Association's National Center on Family Group Decision Making, the FGDM Roundtable is an annual forum that draws a multitude of individuals involved in FGDM initiatives worldwide.

North Carolina is interested in promoting Family Group Decision Making through the NC Family Group Conferencing (NC-FGC) Project and is, therefore, an appropriate place to hold the 2001 FGDM Roundtable. The theme of this year's Roundtable, "Widening the Circle," embodies the purpose and process of FGC as well as the mission of the NC-FGC Project: "to use FGC in order to develop partnerships among families, neighbors, community members and leaders, and public agencies that protect, nurture, and safeguard children and other family members by building on the strengths of the family and their community." For more information about the NC-FGC Project, visit the Project's website: <http://social.chass.ncsu.edu/jpennell/nCFGCP/>.

The Division of Social Services along with the UNC-CH School of Social Work, the Social Work Program at NC State University, the National Resource Center on Foster Care and Permanency Planning in New York, NY, and the National Council on Juvenile and Family Court Judges in Reno, NV will serve as co-sponsors for the 2001 FGDM Roundtable.

We encourage all DSS staff – those currently involved in the NC-FGC Project and anyone interested in learning more about Family Group Conferencing – to attend the FGDM Roundtable in June. For more information about the AHA's National Center for FGDM and/or the 2001 FGDM Roundtable, visit www.fgdm.org.

Dear Director Letter
March 30, 2001
Page 2 of 2

Registration information is included in the attached Roundtable brochure. For NC county and state DSS staff ONLY, on-campus lodging at UNC-CH is being offered. Please see attached page for details. This information is not included in the conference brochure.

Sincerely,



Charles C. Harris, Chief
Children's Services Section

cc: E. C. Modlin
Nancy Costin
Local Support Managers

Children's Services Team Leaders
Children's Program Representatives

On-Campus Housing for North Carolina DSS Staff

Room Rates: \$36.00 (for one or two occupants)

Reservation Deadline: May 1, 2001

**Contact Person: Jennifer Hardison, NC-FGC Project Coordinator
(919) 969-7356 or hardison@email.unc.edu.**

Forty rooms in Ruffin Hall on UNC Chapel Hill's North Campus have been reserved for North Carolina DSS staff use June 6th, 7th, and 8th (Wednesday-Friday nights). The cost is \$36.00 per night per room. All rooms have two single beds. Participants may choose to share a room or stay by themselves.

Linens for each bed (2 sheets, 1 towel, 1 pillow), blanket, and a telephone will be provided for each room. Showers and restrooms are located on each floor (rooms do not have a private bath). Ruffin has a kitchen area, vending and ice machines, mail boxes, computer/cable TV outlets, and parlor/lounges/TV rooms, and is air-conditioned.

Check-in will take place at Ruffin on June 6th for participants that wish to attend the skills-building institutes and on June 7th. Check-out will be in the morning of Saturday the 9th.

Ruffin is located approximately one mile from the Carolina Inn. Participants that choose to do so may access the free campus shuttle to get to and from the Carolina Inn.

On-campus parking is limited and requires the purchase of a parking pass. Campus parking passes may be obtained for \$2.00 per day or \$5.00 per week. There is a limited number of parking spaces located across the street from Ruffin in the Cobb parking area. Daily and overnight parking on Stadium Drive will also be available for Ruffin occupants and other conference participants.

To reserve a room in Ruffin and/or secure a parking pass or for any other questions, please contact Jennifer Hardison (contact information above).