



North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Social Services
2412 Mail Service Center • Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-2412

Michael F. Easley, Governor
Carmen Hooker Odom, Secretary

Pheon E. Beal, Director
(919) 733-3055

April 22, 2003

Dear County Director of Social Services:
Director of Child Placing Agency:

ATTENTION: All Adoption and Foster Home Licensing Supervisors

SUBJECT: *Shared Parenting* Training

The *Shared Parenting* In-Service Foster Parent Training Program originally scheduled for February 17-19, 2003 in Charlotte has been rescheduled for June 25-27, 2003. This is a unique **train-the-trainer** curriculum was developed by Child Welfare Institute for MAPP-GPS Leaders and enables them to serve in the role of trainer to build specific skills and abilities of experienced foster parents

Shared Parenting is a three-day **train-the-trainer** curriculum for certified MAPP-GPS Leaders who will lead in-service training sessions for experienced foster parents. This curriculum is designed to enable MAPP-GPS leaders to teach foster parents how to develop effective working relationships with birth families. There are seven 2-3 hour modules, each of which may be conducted as 2-3 hour stand-alone in-service sessions. Or, the sessions can be delivered sequentially, building upon the skills of each prior session.

Each module emphasizes the unique partnerships that must be established between foster parents and birth parents. Modules that the MAPP-GPS Leaders will learn to teach foster parents are:

Finding a Way to Share – This module develops the critical basis for the creation of the shared parenting concept and builds skills in meeting the challenges of co-parenting with birth families. It features videotape of parents who talk about the experience of having children placed in foster care.

Shared Parental Responsibilities – This module focuses on specific techniques for sharing parental responsibilities with parents of children in foster care that focus on safety, well-being, and permanence.

Making and Maintaining Boundaries in Shared Parenting – This module helps foster parents make and maintain boundaries with children in foster care that assure the safety, well-being, and permanence for the children.

Fear and Control in Shared Parenting – This module helps foster parents explore ways to manage fear and control issues in the shared parenting relationships with parents of children in foster care.

Partnering with Parents Who Abuse Substances – This module builds foster parenting skills required when sharing parenting with parents who are addicted to alcohol or drugs. Participants learn about the medical model of addiction and possible recovery programs for parents of children in care.

Shared Parenting to Foster or Adopt Children From Families Where There is Domestic Violence – This module addresses the unique skills required of foster parents who care for children and youth who come from families where there has been domestic violence.

Shared Parenting to Foster or Adopt Children Whose Parents are Mentally Ill – This module, developed by a therapist and adoptive parent, helps foster parents share parenting with parents who are mentally ill so that the safety, well-being and permanence needs of these children will be met.

Prerequisite: Child Welfare in North Carolina or completion of other required pre-service training based on employment and functional responsibilities for NCDSS Child Welfare Staff AND Model Approach to Partnerships in Parenting-Group Preparation and Selection.

Who should attend? Certified MAPP-GPS Leaders who provide in-service training for foster and adoptive parents. **Persons attending must be certified MAPP-GPS Leaders.**

Contact Hours: 19.5 contact hours. This training can be credited toward the 24 hour continuing education component.

Maximum Number of Participants: 16

Minimum Number of Participants: 10

When and where is the training?

June 25-27, 2003

Time: 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Charlotte Regional Training Center

Registration closing date June 3, 2003

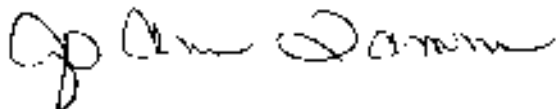
**If you were registered for the session in February that was cancelled due to inclement weather, you will need to register again for this session.

Confirmation and directions will be forwarded to each participant upon receipt of their registration form. A registration form for these courses can be obtained by copying the registration form out of the NCDSS Children's Services – Staff Development, Winter/Spring 2003 Training Schedule, or by going to the NCDSS, Children's Services website:

<http://www.dhhs.state.nc.us/dss/childrensservices/> (click on the Training tab). Registration forms should be faxed to Clarence Lamb at (919) 733-9204.

Should you have any questions about this course please contact Sara West at (919) 733-7672 or sara.west@ncmail.net. If you have questions about the registration process please contact Clarence Lamb at (919) 733-7672 or clarence.lamb@ncmail.net.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "JoAnn Lamm". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "JoAnn" being more prominent than the last name "Lamm".

JoAnn Lamm, Program Administrator
Family Support and Child Welfare Services Section

JAL/sw

Cc: Pheon Beal
Sherry Bradsher
Children's Services Team Leaders
Children's Program Representatives

CS-10-03