



## 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

June 28, 2002

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

**Attention: MAPP-GPS Leaders**

SUBJECT: *Shared Parenting* Training

The North Carolina Division of Social Services is pleased to announce a train the trainer curriculum for MAPP-GPS Leaders entitled ***Shared Parenting***. This exciting new training developed by Child Welfare Institute emphasizes the unique partnerships that must be established between foster parents and birth parents. *Shared Parenting* recognizes the vital role that foster and adoptive families can play in collaborative decision making with birth families when children are in placement. It encourages foster and adoptive families to be actively involved with and to develop respect for the parents of children in their care. *Shared Parenting* also helps foster and adoptive parents to create positive alignments and healthy boundaries with the parents of children in their care.

*Shared Parenting* will provide counties and private child placing agencies with seven, two to three hour in-service training modules which they can use with foster and adoptive families to teach them how to develop effective working relationships with birth families. We will conduct a four-day train the trainer designed to train certified MAPP-GPS Leaders who will serve in the role of trainer to build specific skills and abilities of experienced foster parents.

Modules that the MAPP-GPS Leaders will learn to teach to foster and adoptive 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 parenting 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 parents of 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.

**Contact Hours:** The train the trainer for MAPP-GPS Leaders is 24 hours. This training can be credited toward the 24-hour continuing education component for social workers.

**Target Audience:** This training of trainers is for certified MAPP-GPS Leaders who provide in-service training for foster and adoptive parents. **Persons attending must be certified MAPP-GPS Leaders.**

Maximum Number of Participants: 24  
Minimum Number of Participants: 10

### **When and where is the training?**

#### **August 13-16, 2002**

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
Asheville Regional Training Center  
Register by July 22, 2002

#### **August 20-23, 2002**

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
Kinston Regional Training Center  
Register by July 29, 2002

#### **September 3-6, 2002**

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
Greensboro Regional Training Center  
Register by August 12, 2002

#### **September 10-13, 2002**

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
Fayetteville Regional Training Center  
Register by August 19, 2002

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 Training Schedule pg. 45, or by going to the NCDSS, Children's Services website:

<http://www.dhhs.state.nc.us/dss/childrenservices/>. (Click on the Training tab, click on “View the on-line version of the current Child Welfare Training Schedule”, click on III. Registration, #3 Registration Form.) Registration Forms should be faxed to Clarence Lamb at (919) 733-9204.

Should you have questions about these courses please contact Sara West at (919) 733-7672 or [sara.west@ncmail.net](mailto: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](mailto:Clarence.Lamb@ncmail.net).

We hope that you are as excited about this training venture as we are.

Sincerely,



Charles C. Harris  
Chief, Children's Services Section

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

***CS-18-2002***