March 1, 2017

DEAR COUNTY DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES

DEAR EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS OF CHILD PLACING AGENCIES (FOSTER CARE AND ADOPTION)

ATTENTION: CHILD WELFARE SERVICES STAFF

SUBJECT: FOSTER PARENT PORTAL

The Division is pleased to announce the launch of FosteringNC.org. This website is a learning site for North Carolina foster and adoptive parents and kinship caregivers. It features the following resources.

- On-Demand Courses – The website currently hosts short, free courses that are available anytime and include a certification of completion learners can share with their supervising agencies. More courses are in development.
- Webinars – Recorded webinars feature such topics as creating normalcy for young people in foster care and medication and treatment considerations for ADHD.
- Videos – Short 4 to 5 minute videos highlight Shared Parenting, Visitation and Trauma and Behavior.
- Resources – The Resources page provides links to *Fostering Perspectives,* our bi-yearly publication for resource parents, as well as links to NC KIDS, Adopt US Kids and Post-Adoption Support.
- Answers to questions frequently asked by foster parents.

Current foster parents are encouraged to speak with their supervising agency about securing training hours for relicensure if they take advantage of the above learning opportunities. From the Division of Social Services' perspective, it would be allowable. If you have questions about the website please contact Kathy W. Dobbs at Kathy.Dobbs@dhhs.nc.gov or 919-527-6362.

Sincerely,

Kevin Kelley, Section Chief
Child Welfare Services

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