



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

952 Old U.S. Highway 70, Black Mountain, North Carolina 28711
Telephone: (828) 669-3388 ■ Fax: (828) 669-3365

Beverly Eaves Perdue, Governor
Lanier M. Cansler, Secretary

Sherry S. Bradsher, Director
(919) 733-3055

February 27, 2009

DEAR COUNTY DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES

DEAR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF PRIVATE CHILD-PLACING AGENCY

SUBJECT: A BEST PRACTICE GUIDE TO PARTNERING WITH RESOURCE FAMILIES

The Division of Social Services is pleased to offer each county department of social services and private child-placing agency a resource for recruiting and retaining foster, adoptive and other resource families. This guide was developed by the Jordan Institute for Families at the UNC School of Social Work. Staff from county departments of social services, private agencies and the Division of Social Services assisted in the development of this document.

The guide entitled "A Best Practice Guide to Partnering with Resource Families" can be found on the Division of Social Services Publication web site (<http://www.ncdhhs.gov/dss/publications/index.htm>). This guide highlights recruitment and retention activities for all agency staff members. We ask that you make all agency personnel aware of this document and begin to think about ways to engage your entire agency in recruiting and retaining foster parents, adoptive parents, relatives, etc.

If you have questions about the guide please feel free to contact John McMahon (johnmcmahon@mindspring.com / 828-670-5051) or Mellicent Blythe (mblythe@email.unc.edu / 919-843-7582) with the Jordan Institute or Division of Social Services staff at 828-669-3388.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Charisse S. Johnson".

Charisse S. Johnson, Chief
Child Welfare Services

cc: Sherry S. Bradsher
Sarah Barham
Child Welfare Services Section Team Leaders
Children's Services Program Representatives
Regulatory and Licensing Services Consultants

CWS-12-09