



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

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(919) 733-3055

**August 2, 2011**

**DEAR COUNTY DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES**

**DIRECTORS OF: PRIVATE GROUP HOMES, CHILD CARING INSTITUTIONS, CHILD PLACING AGENCIES, FAMILY PRESERVATION PROGRAMS, FAMILY SUPPORT OR FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER PROGRAMS, NC SCHOOLS OF SOCIAL WORK AND FIELD EDUCATION PROGRAM COORDINATORS**

**ATTENTION: CHILD WELFARE SERVICES STAFF**

**SUBJECT: NCDSS CHILD WELFARE SERVICES TRAINING CALENDAR FOR JULY-DECEMBER 2011**

The North Carolina Division of Social Services is pleased to announce the Summer/Fall 2011 Child Welfare Services training schedule is now available online. To find **available courses**, including **all online courses**, go to <https://www.ncswLearn.org> and click on "Find a Training". Searches may be done by event, or by viewing the Training Catalog. An account is not needed to search for trainings. However an account **is necessary** to register for a course. Course registration applications may be **easily submitted** online through the website once registration opens for a particular course.

Once a participant is registered for a course, **confirmation letters** are sent via email to the participant or to the supervisor if the participant is new and does not yet have an email account. Please **read confirmation letters carefully** for information that will assure a successful experience for participants. These letters give **specifics on how to prepare and what to bring to class, such as copies of policy**.

If needed for reference, a printable version of this calendar is attached to the message containing this letter and is accessible through the Division's website at: <http://www.ncdhs.gov/dss/training/childwelfare.htm>. Please keep in mind that the most **up-to-date information** on the training schedule including any changes to the schedule **is found at** <https://www.ncswLearn.org>.

**Spotlight on Supervision Training**

According to the 2011 Think Tank Symposium, ***Supervision: The Safety Net for Front-Line Child Welfare Practice***, "supervisors are critical to achieving retention of the 'right' front-line workers, in promoting workers' sense of competence and job satisfaction, and in improving outcomes for children and families". The Division recognizes the importance of enhancing supervisory practice by providing training which addresses the needs of our supervisors. **Introduction to Supervision for Child Welfare Services** is one of our curriculums in the 300 Series. While this course is mandatory for all

new supervisors in a County DSS within the first year of assuming supervisory responsibilities, we believe it is also an extremely beneficial refresher for the seasoned supervisor. This is a **competency based training** taught in a learner-centered format to strengthen the skills of participants. The event occurs over the course of 3 weeks, in 3-day segments for a total of 9 days. It includes an opportunity for supervisors to perform a self-evaluation in terms of their learning styles as well as attitudes and values that influence them as supervisors. Participants will leave this training with **concrete tools** to use in their interactions with staff and other supervisors. The training also meets the 54 hour supervisory training requirement. To learn more about this course or other courses specific to the needs of supervisors, visit <https://www.ncswLearn.org>.

### **New Online Course**

We are pleased to announce a new online course, **Foster Home Licensing: The Keys to Success**. Available August 1, 2011, this 2-hour, self-paced course, is designed to improve the assessment and screening of prospective foster parents and assure accuracy and thoroughness of foster home licensing paperwork. This course was developed in partnership with the Division of Social Services by the Family and Children's Resource Program, part of the Jordan Institute for Families at the UNC Chapel Hill School of Social Work. **This does not replace the required 200 Series course, Foster Home Licensing in Child Welfare Services**.

**The new online course is required for all child welfare staff from county DSS agencies and private child placing agencies** assessing prospective foster families and submitting foster home license applications. Current foster home licensing workers employed by either a County DSS or a private child-placing agency will have until November 1, 2011, to fulfill course requirements. Any staff hired after August 1, 2011, will also be required to complete the training. After November 1, 2011, the Division of Social Services' Regulatory and Licensing office in Black Mountain will only accept foster home license applications from County DSS staff or private child placing agency staff who have completed and passed this course.

If you have any questions about this letter, please feel free to contact Kathy Dobbs, Program Manager for Staff Development at (919) 334-1176 or at [kathy.dobbs@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:kathy.dobbs@dhhs.nc.gov). Please direct questions about specific course availability or registration status to the course registrar.

Sincerely,



Kevin Kelley, Interim Chief  
Child Welfare Services

cc: Sherry S. Bradsher  
Jack Rogers  
Child Welfare Services Team Leaders

CWS-19-11