

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

325 North Salisbury Street • Raleigh, North Carolina 27603 Courier # 56-20-25

Beverly Purdue, Governor Lanier M. Cansler, Secretary Sherry S. Bradsher, Director (919) 733-3055

December 15, 2011

DEAR COUNTY DIRECTORS OF SOCIAL SERVICES

ATTENTION: CHILD WELFARE PROGRAM ADMINISTRATORS, SUPERVISORS,

AND CHILD WELFARE WORKERS

SUBJECT: PROJECT BROADCAST: DISSEMINATING TRAUMA-INFORMED

PRACTICES IN THE NORTH CAROLINA CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM

The North Carolina Division of Social Services (NCDSS) is pleased to inform you that we have been awarded funding for *Project Broadcast: Disseminating Trauma-Informed Practices to Children in the North Carolina Child Welfare System.* This project provides the state \$640,000 each year for five years (through September 2016). This initiative provides North Carolina with the opportunity to improve safety, permanency and well-being outcomes of children through improving access to evidence-informed practices and services that will mitigate the effects of trauma in the lives of our children and youth.

This grant is funded through the United States Department of Health & Human Services, Administration for Children & Families (ACF). NCDSS is partnering with the Center for Child and Family Health, a leader of the National Child Traumatic Stress Network, as well as, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill on this project—all of which are proven national leaders in developing programs and resources that produce intended results.

The goals of Project Broadcast are:

- 1. Coordinate system-level changes across the system of care in the nine demonstration counties-- Buncombe, Craven, Cumberland, Hoke, Pender, Pitt, Scotland, Wilson, and Linion
- 2. Develop trauma-informed child welfare workforces and systems across the nine demonstration counties
- 3. Increase local capacity and access to trauma-specific evidence-based mental health treatments for children and youth in the nine demonstration counties; and
- 4. Develop a dissemination and sustainability plan for statewide transformation.

The first year of this grant is a planning phase, in which the Division will work collaboratively with ACF to further develop the initiative and agree on a plan for the remaining four years. In addition to the initial planning, we anticipate doing the following during the first year:

- Holding quarterly meetings of Project Broadcast Leadership Team
- Hosting a Policy Summit on Trauma-Informed Child Welfare Practice
- Presenting to the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services
- Convening an expert panel for a Child Welfare Trauma Training Toolkit
- Facilitating training on the effects of trauma on children for foster parents in 5 of the 9 demonstration counties
- Conducting Learning Collaboratives on Parent-Child Interaction Therapy and Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for clinicians

If you have any questions, please contact the Project Broadcast Coordinator, Jeanne Preisler via e-mail at <u>Jeanne.Preisler@dhhs.nc.gov</u> or via telephone at 919-334-1133.

Sincerely,

Kevin Kelley, Section Chief Child Welfare Services

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cc: Sherry S. Bradsher
Jack Rogers
Child Welfare Services Team Leaders
Kathy Sommese
Lakitha Miller

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