



NC DEPARTMENT OF
**HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**
Division of Social Services

ROY COOPER • Governor

MANDY COHEN, MD, MPH • Secretary

SUSAN OSBORNE • Assistant Secretary for County Operations
for Human Services

December 21, 2020

DEAR COUNTY DIRECTORS OF SOCIAL SERVICES

**ATTENTION: DIRECTORS, CHILD WELFARE PROGRAM ADMINISTRATORS, MANAGERS,
SUPERVISORS, AND SOCIAL WORKERS**

SUBJECT: Child Welfare Transformation Updates and *Practice Notes*

REQUIRED ACTION: Information Only Time Sensitive Immediate

**PURPOSE: To provide updates to county Departments of Social Services, on Child Welfare
Transformation in North Carolina via SFY 2020-2021 *Practice Notes* issues**

NC DHHS / DSS is pleased to partner with and engage county Departments of Social Services (DSS) in child welfare transformation. County DSS Directors serve on the Unified Public Agency Leadership Team (ULT). County DSS Directors and their child welfare staff serve on the five (5) Design Teams working on the strategic priorities and targets of North Carolina's 2020-2024 Child and Family Services Plan (CFSP). County DSS Directors also serve on the statewide Child Welfare Leadership Advisory Team (LAT), which informs and supports implementation of the Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA) in North Carolina.

NC DSS is also dedicating issues of its statewide publication, *Practices Notes*, to provide information and updates about child welfare transformation efforts and accomplishments. The first *Practice Notes* issue (Vol 26, No.1), in the series, is attached hereto for your reference. We are proud of this issue and hope that you will read and share it with your staff, colleagues and local child welfare stakeholders.

We are also proud of our partnership with county Departments of Social Services and local child welfare professionals. We look forward to continuing our collaborations in 2021 and beyond.

Sincerely,

Lisa Tucker Cauley
Senior Director for Child, Family and Adult Services
Division of Social Services
Department of Health and Human Services

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LOCATION: 820 S. Boylan Avenue, McBryde Building, Raleigh, NC 27603
MAILING ADDRESS: 2410 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-2410
www.ncdhhs.gov • TEL: 919-527-6340 • FAX: 919-715-0168

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Cc: Susan Osborne, Assist Secretary for County Operations for Human Services
Teresa Strom, Section Chief for County Operations
Carla McNeill, Section Chief of Permanency
Kathy Stone, Section Chief for Child Protective Services and Prevention
Linda Waite, Interim Section Chief for Regulatory & Licensing

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