

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF SOCIAL SERVICES
CHILD WELFARE SERVICES

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

MANDY COHEN, MD, MPH
SECRETARY

WAYNE E. BLACK
DIRECTOR

November 28, 2017

DEAR COUNTY DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES

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

SUBJECT: New Professional Child Welfare Education Opportunity

The NC Division of Social Services has partnered with the Family and Children's Resource Program (FCRP) at the UNC School of Social Work to provide a new advanced professional education opportunity for child welfare social workers employed by NC County DSS agencies. FCRP faculty have developed a three-course *online* **Child Welfare Certificate Program. Completion of the three advanced courses initially will result in a Certificate of Completion.** The hope is that the three Certificate courses will be approved for university MSW credit in the future. The goal is to increase graduate-level education for practicing child welfare professionals. We are now recruiting current DSS child welfare social workers to pilot the three Certificate courses to ensure that their content enhances and extends the knowledge and skills needed by child welfare practitioners.

Child Welfare Certificate Program for DSS Social Workers:

- Designed for DSS child welfare programs, including child welfare social workers, supervisors, and program managers, who want to gain advanced knowledge and skills to improve practice in the field.
- Comprised of three courses: Course 1: *Parenting and Human Development*; Course 2: *Advanced Practice Skills with Child Welfare-Involved Families*; Course 3: *Collaborative Case Planning* with unique content not available in courses currently offered in ncswLearn.org.
- All courses are self-paced and a certificate is awarded after successful completion of each course, and a program certificate is issued after the completion of all three courses.
- Enrollment is open and free to all county DSS child welfare social workers, supervisors and program managers. For more information and to enroll in the pilot go to: <http://cwcertificate.web.unc.edu/>

WWW.NCDHHS.GOV

TEL 919-527-6340 • FAX 919-715-6714

LOCATION: 820 S. BOYLAN AVE. • MCBRYDE BUILDING • RALEIGH, NC 27603

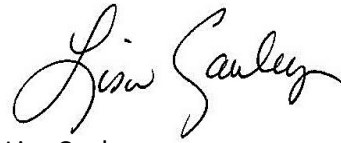
MAILING ADDRESS: 2406 MAIL SERVICE CENTER • RALEIGH, NC 27699-2406

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY / AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER

Please encourage DSS child welfare social workers to pilot test these three Certificate courses. Between now and January 2, 2018 staff can enroll in any or all three of the courses. Coursework for all three courses must be completed within 8 weeks of enrollment. Participants should discuss program enrollment with their supervisors and obtain necessary approvals or accommodations if taking online courses *during work hours*. Participants will complete an online satisfaction form, and may be asked to participate in an interview or focus group at a later date for additional feedback. ***Please see the attached handout that can be circulated to staff which includes information about how to enroll.***

For more information contact Tamara Norris, UNC Jordan Institute for Families, at tnorris@email.unc.edu.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lisa Cauley". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "L" and "C".

Lisa Cauley,
Deputy Director of Child Welfare

Attachment

CWS-44-2017