



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

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Courier # 56-20-25

Beverly Eaves Perdue, Governor
Lanier M. Cansler, Secretary

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

November 30, 2009

DEAR COUNTY DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES

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

SUBJECT: NCDSS CHILD WELFARE SERVICES TRAINING CALENDAR FOR WINTER/SPRING 2010

The Division of Social Services is pleased to announce that the Winter/Spring 2010 Child Welfare Services training schedule is now complete and can be accessed on-line at: <https://www.ncswlearn.org>, the learning website for North Carolina's human services professionals. In an effort to continue being fiscally responsible, the Division will not be mailing a "hard copy" of the training calendar to your agency. However, you and your staff can continue to check for available courses through the online training calendar and submit a registration application on-line as soon as registration opens for a particular course. An online printable copy of the calendar along with this letter can also be accessed through the Division's website at: <http://www.ncdhs.gov/dss/training/childwelfare.htm>.

As the Division strives to remain responsive both to the emerging learning needs of North Carolina's human services workforce as well as the program-related needs identified from our state's most recent Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) and the subsequent Program Improvement Plan (PIP), we wish to highlight some of the outstanding training opportunities featured in this training schedule:

NEW for Social Workers, Supervisors, Program Managers and Directors

Building Awareness and Cultural Competency – This three day interactive, foundational training is designed to enhance the cultural knowledge and sensitivity of social workers and supervisors working with culturally diverse individuals and families. It is mandatory for all child welfare staff employed in a county Department of Social Services within the first year of employment. This course has been developed by the National Multicultural Institute.

NEW Online Training Opportunities for All Staff

To help make training more easily accessible, the Division continues to move forward with advancements in on-line learning. The following two courses have been converted from classroom-based training to online training. These courses were developed and converted by Family and Children's Resource Program, part of the Jordan Institute for Families at UNC Chapel Hill School of Social Work and are accessible via the [ncswLearn.org](http://www.ncswlearn.org) website:

Understanding Child Mental Health Issues – This is both a “self-paced” and a “live” online course focused on the causes, symptoms, prognosis, risks, treatments and interventions for pediatric depression, juvenile bipolar disorder, ADD, reactive attachment disorder, oppositional-defiant and conduct disorder, and post traumatic stress disorder. This curriculum is designed to provide a basic understanding of the childhood mental health problems most commonly seen in child welfare settings.

Understanding and Intervening in Child Neglect – This is an interactive “self-paced” online course that will help participants understand how neglect and poverty are linked (but are not necessarily the same issue), how both poverty and neglect affect children and families, and innovative interventions.

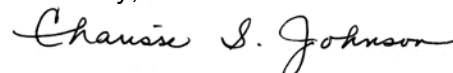
NEW Expanded Features of the ncswLearn.org Website

The Division is also excited to announce that webinars have been fully incorporated into the ncswLearn.org website. To register for these webinars simply log in to your ncswLearn.org account, select Personalized Learning Portfolio (PLP), and select the Webinar option. In addition, webinar participants will have their 1.5 contact hours included in their ncswLearn.org training attendance history and credited towards their 24 hour continuing education requirement. The first webinar to be offered will be on December 8, 2009 from 10:30am - 12:00pm entitled "Working with Families Who are 'Stuck'."

As the ncswLearn.org website continues to expand with features that will assist you and your staff manage and track the learning needs and training progress of your agency, the Division continues to be excited about the new developments in training delivery and looks forward to pursuing technology further to help meet the needs of North Carolina’s human services professionals. Thank you for your on-going support in these endeavors.

If you have any questions about this letter, please feel free to contact R. Patrick Betancourt, Interim Program Manager for Staff Development at (919) 334-1104 or at patrick.betancourt@dhhs.nc.gov. Should you or your staff members have questions about specific courses or registration, please contact the appropriate registrar according to the course name of the training for which you are registering.

Sincerely,



Charisse S. Johnson, Chief
Child Welfare Services

cc: Sherry S. Bradsher
Sarah Barham
Child Welfare Services Team Leaders
Children’s Services Program Representatives
Local Business Liaisons
Regulatory and Licensing Services Consultants
Jack Rogers