



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

325 North Salisbury Street • Mail Service Center 2406 Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-2406  
Courier # 56-20-25

Michael F. Easley, Governor  
Dempsey Benton, Secretary

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

December 15, 2008

**DEAR COUNTY DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES**

**ATTENTION: CHILD WELFARE PROGRAM MANAGERS, SUPERVISORS AND LINKS WORKERS**

**SUBJECT: FOSTER YOUTH SURVEY RESULTS AND FOCUS GROUPS**

Attached you will find results from the 2008 foster youth survey completed by NCDSS. A requirement of NC's Program Improvement Plan is the completion of face to face focus groups with older youth in foster care led by every county director. As a county director, the Division is asking that you use this statewide data to inform your discussion with youth. It is not our expectation that you provide the statewide data to the youth prior to your focus group discussion. The statewide data is meant to capture information on a yearly basis from youth and to reiterate the importance of youth input/engagement.

The deadline in North Carolina's PIP for directors meeting with LINKS youth ages 13 and above is March 31, 2009. Your assistance will be needed to ensure that we have given youth an opportunity to be heard regarding what is working in our state and what we need to improve.

The purpose of the focus groups is to engage in a meaningful dialogue with youth around continuous improvement. To demonstrate evidence of completion, please mail or fax the agenda from your meeting with identifying information (date, county, items addressed) to Candice Britt, 919-733-6924 (f), 919-334-1138 (t), 2406 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-2406.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Charisse S. Johnson".

Charisse S. Johnson, Chief  
Child Welfare Services

Attachment:  
2008 Foster Youth Survey

cc: Sherry S. Bradsher  
Sarah Barham  
Children's Services Program Representatives  
Local Business Liaisons  
Child Welfare Team Leaders

**CWS-68-08**