



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

325 North Salisbury Street • Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-2412
Courier # 56-20-25

Michael F. Easley, Governor
Carmen Hooker Odom, Secretary

Pheon E. Beal, Director
(919) 733-3055

April 12, 2004

DEAR COUNTY DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES

Director of Private Group Home, CCI or Child Placing Agency
Director of Family Preservation, Family Support or Family Resource Center Program
Director of N.C. Schools of Social Work, Field Education Program

Subject: Training Calendar for the Summer/Fall 2004, NCDSS Family Support and Child Welfare Services

It is with great pleasure that we announce the Summer/Fall 2004 Family Support and Child Welfare Services training calendar. As in the past, our schedule includes training course listings, schedules and registration information. Courses are being offered to all child welfare staff by the NCDSS Family Support and Child Welfare Services Staff Development Team, the UNC Family and Children's Resource Program, Appalachian Family Innovations and Resources for Change, Inc. Training that is specifically designed for Multiple Response counties will be provided in separate marketing letters as these opportunities are scheduled.

The training calendar offers agencies the opportunity to select and plan the most appropriate workshops for their staff/students. All training listed in this calendar is free of registration fees for all participants employed in a child welfare role. The expense of traveling to and from the training as well as the per diem costs is the responsibility of the local agency or individual.

Registration may be completed by several different methods. Participants may register on-line by visiting <http://www.ncswtrain.org>. In the alternative, participants may download a registration form by visiting www.dhhs.state.nc.us/dss/childrensservices or by copying the registration form located in the attached Summer/Fall 2004 calendar. Once completed in its entirety, the registration form (revised March 2004) should be faxed to the appropriate registrar listed in the training calendar.

In reviewing the Summer/Fall 2004 calendar, I would like to call your attention to a few updates. In the "Laws" section, please note the revised training law, G.S. 131D-10.6A (b) that passed in the 2003 Legislative session. The revised law requires the Division to ensure that all new and experienced child welfare staff receives annual training for family-centered practice, the family's right to privacy, freedom from duress, coercion and the right to parent. The Division has developed a plan to meet this new training requirement. Counties will be notified of this plan in the near future. We ask that all participants please use the updated registration form, revised March 2004, in the "Registration Forms" section of the training calendar. Finally, as more

counties join the MRS reform efforts, we anticipate additional training needs will arise for staff in these counties. As additional training needs are identified and events are scheduled, a separate mailing will be provided to MRS counties announcing upcoming training events.

In an effort to keep participants well informed of the training schedule, we will continue to identify upcoming training events through quarterly Dear County Director letters. In addition the calendar may also be accessed through the Division's website at www.dhhs.state.nc.us/dss/childrenservices. For those agencies that do not have access to the Internet, an electronic copy of the Summer/Fall training calendar may be requested from the Staff Development Team.

We continue to value and appreciate the on-going feedback that we receive regarding our training system and welcome your comments and suggestions as we continue to build and refine our competency-based training system. Please feel free to address any questions, comments or suggestions to Ruth Harrison, Program Manager for Staff Development, (919) 733-7672 or email: Ruth.Harrison@ncmail.net. Should you or your staff members have questions about specific courses or registration, please contact the appropriate registration person according to the course name of the training for which you are registering.

We are proud of the training opportunities that will be provided in the upcoming months. We hope these training events will enhance the professional development of your new and experienced staff as we move toward systematic child welfare reform in North Carolina.

Sincerely,



Jo Ann Lamm, Administrator
Family Support and Child Welfare Services Section

Attachment

Cc: Pheon Beal
Sherry Bradsher
Children's Program Representatives
Work First Representatives
Family Support and Child Welfare Services Team Leaders
Local Business Liaisons

FSCWS-10-2004