



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

2408 Mail Service Center • Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-2408

Michael F. Easley, Governor
Carmen Hooker Odom, Secretary

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

March 9, 2006

Dear County Director of Social Services:

**Attention: Directors, Work First and Child Welfare Program Administrators,
Program Managers, Supervisors and Social Workers**

Re: Multiple Response System Policy Training

We are very pleased to announce additional Multiple Response System Policy Training. This one-day training is designed to support and assist you as your agency begins to implement the seven strategies of MRS. It is required for any social workers or supervisors who will be either conducting CPS Family Assessments or supervising those who will conduct them. It must be taken before a social worker can be assigned CPS Family Assessments. It will focus completely on the policy for the Multiple Response System, and include discussion on implementing this policy utilizing the six family-centered principles of partnership.

Counties beginning to implement MRS in 2006 are strongly encouraged to send any social workers or supervisors who will be involved in completing or supervising staff that are completing CPS Family Assessments to this training. We encourage you to also send others from your staff who will be involved in implementing the seven strategies of MRS. This may include those providing Work First, CPS Intake, CPS In-Home Case Planning / Case Management, and Child Placement services. This one-day event, begins at 9 AM and ends at 4 PM. The training will be held in three sites around the state in May 2006. These training events will be the last time this will be offered as a stand alone training, as the content will be incorporated into the Division's Pre-service training curriculum next fiscal year. Registration will be on site. Please e-mail Holly McNeill with the approximate number of staff you plan to send to each session so that sufficient materials will be available. Specific directions to the training sites will be available when you respond with your expected number of attendees. Attached to this letter you will find a reference document entitled MRS Training at a Glance. This document briefly describes all MRS-related training. More detailed information can be found in the Division's 2006 Winter/Spring Training Calendar which you already have in hard copy form, and which can be found on the Division's website at: <http://www.dhhs.state.nc.us/dss/training/childwelfare.htm> Please note that along with this training, Cornerstone IIIA: Partners in Change is also required prior to beginning CPS Family Assessments.

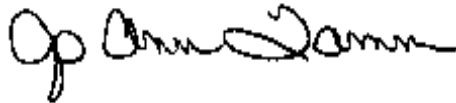
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The dates of the trainings are as follows:

- 5/3/06 Rowan Co. Library, Stanback Room, 201 Fisher St., Salisbury, NC
- 5/9/06 Black Mountain Library, 105 Dougherty St., Black Mountain, NC
- 5/10/06 Edgecombe Co. DSS, 301 N. Fairview Rd., Rocky Mount, NC

We look forward to your attendance and participation in this training. This is a most exciting, yet challenging, time in Child Welfare and Work First services as we all strive to learn new skills to enhance our work with families, social work staff and the community. If you should have any questions, please feel free to contact Holly McNeill, MRS Policy Consultant for Family Support and Child Welfare Services at (828) 757-5672 or Holly.McNeill@ncmail.net

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jo Ann Lamm". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of each name being capitalized and prominent.

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

Attachment

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

FSCWS-13-06

MRS Training at a Glance

Required

Course	Description	Who Is Eligible
1. Cornerstone 3A: Partners in Change, A New Perspective on Child Protective Services	Teaches prospective family assessment workers to successfully apply the principles of partnership in a new approach to child protection.	DSS employees and their supervisors who will be conducting family assessments
2. MRS Policy Training	Provides detailed summary of current MRS policy.	Child welfare workers, supervisors, program managers; DSS directors and administrators; Work First staff and supervisors

Recommended

Course	Description	Who Is Eligible
3. Cornerstone 1: MRS Is System Reform	Helps child welfare agencies and their communities begin the process of implementation.	DSS employees and their community partners in prospective MRS counties
4. Cornerstone 2: What's Good for Families Is Good for Workers	Supervisors learn to apply family-centered principles to their work with staff.	Child Welfare and Work First program administrators/program managers and supervisors
5. Cornerstone 3B: Partners in Change: An Introduction to Family-Centered Practice	Prepares DSS employees who are not family assessors to implement the other strategies of MRS.	Workers and supervisors involved in intake, investigative assessments, case planning/ management, foster care placement and licensing, adoption, Work First, and FPS
6. Cornerstone 4: Working With Others, Working with Outcomes	Learn to enhance collaboration and use data to improve outcomes for families and children.	Child Welfare and Work First program administrators/program managers and supervisors
7. Child Forensic Interviewing	Learn legally defensible, developmentally appropriate interviewing of the alleged child victim in investigative assessments of child abuse.	Child welfare workers and supervisors involved in the investigative assessments. Supervisors strongly encouraged to attend with their staff
8. Setting the Stage for Family-Centered Meetings: An Agency & Community Orientation	Learn what a Child and Family Team is, how it can be used, when you should have one, and what your role will be as a participant.	DSS staff and invited community partners likely to be involved in Child and Family teams and other family-centered meetings
9. Caution: Family Meeting Ahead! A Guide for Social Workers Attending Family-Centered Meetings	Learn to prepare for Child and Family Teams and other family-centered meetings, ensuring participant safety, and achieve "buy-in" from family and community members.	Child welfare and Work First staff who will attend CFTs, Shared Parenting meetings, and other family meetings
10. Anchors Away! How to Navigate Family Meetings: The Role of the Facilitator	Learn to effectively facilitate Child and Family Teams and other family-centered meetings.	Child welfare and Work First staff and community partners designated to facilitate CFTs, Shared Parenting meetings and other family meetings
11. ABC's of Including Children in Family-Centered Meetings	Learn to prepare children for family meetings, make sure their voices are heard, and ensure their safe participation.	Workers, supervisors, program managers, administrators, facilitators, and community partners involved with CFTs and other family-centered meetings
12. Widening the Circle: Family-Centered Meetings and Safety Issues	Learn to hold safe, inclusive Child and Family Teams and other family-centered meetings even when families have a past history of violence, substance abuse issues, mental health histories, or developmental disabilities.	DSS staff and invited community partners likely to be involved in CFTs and other family-centered meetings
13. Shared Parenting	A train-the-trainer curriculum where participants learn to teach a course in their community that will help foster parents engage in shared parenting.	Certified MAPP-GPS leaders
14. Supporting Partnerships in Parenting	Learn the whys and hows of promoting shared parenting between birth and foster families to promote child safety, permanency, and well-being.	CPS and placement workers and supervisors who work with birth and foster families.

For course times or to register, visit the NC Social Services Professional Development Site < <http://www.ncswtrain.org/> >