



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

2412 Mail Service Center • Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-2412

Michael F. Easley, Governor
Carmen Hooker Odom, Secretary

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

May 18, 2004

Dear County Directors of Social Services and Directors of Child Placing Agencies:

Attention: Child Welfare Supervisors

RE: Shared Parenting Training

The North Carolina Division of Social Services is pleased to announce an additional *Shared Parenting* training for MAPP -GPS leaders. *Shared Parenting* In-Service Foster Parent Training Program was developed by the Child Welfare Institute. This is a unique **train-the-trainer** curriculum for MAPP-GPS Leaders that enables them to serve in the role of trainer to build specific skills and abilities of experienced foster parents. This training is the same training that was announced in a Dear County Director letter dated June 28, 2002 and offered statewide beginning in July 2002 to Multiple Response System Pilot Counties. This training has been recently offered in the Charlotte Regional Training Center. **Because of the overwhelming response and long waiting list, we are offering this training a second time during this training calendar period** so that additional MAPP-GPS leaders can attend and be better able to train foster parents in the skills needed to enter into an effective partnership with birth families and share parenting in a way that honors the *Six Principles of Partnership*. A more detailed description is attached.

This training will take place on June 28-30, 2004 at the Greensboro Regional Training Center from 9:00 am to 4:30 pm. We ask that you register by June 7, 2004. Confirmation and directions will be forwarded to each participant upon receipt of their registration form. A registration form for these courses can be obtained by copying the registration form out of the NCDSS Children's Services – Staff Development Training Schedule, or by going to the NCDSS, Children's Services website: <http://www.dhhs.state.nc.us/dss/childrenservices/> (click on the Training tab) or at <http://www.ncswtrain.com> Registration forms should be faxed to Clarence Lamb at (919) 733-9204. . If you have questions about the registration process please contact Clarence Lamb at (919) 733-7672 or clarence.lamb@ncmail.net.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jo Ann Lamm".

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

JAL/rjh
Attachment

Cc: Pheon Beal
Sherry Bradsher
FSCWS Team Leaders
Children's Services Program Representatives

FSCWS-16-04

SHARED PARENTING IN-SERVICE FOSTER PARENT TRAINING PROGRAM

This three-day **train-the-trainer** curriculum is designed to train certified MAPP-GPS Leaders in leading in-service training sessions for experienced foster parents in order to teach the foster parents how to develop effective working relationships with birth families. This curriculum provides seven 2 to 3 hour modules, each of which may be conducted as 2 to 3 hour stand-alone in-service sessions. Or, the sessions can be delivered sequentially, building upon the skills of each prior session.

Each module emphasizes the unique partnerships that must be established between foster parents and birth parents. Modules that the MAPP-GPS Leaders will learn to teach foster parents are:

Finding a Way to Share – This module develops the critical basis for the creation of the shared parenting concept and builds skills in meeting the challenges of co-parenting with birth families. It features videotape of parents who talk about the experience of having children placed in foster care.

Shared Parental Responsibilities – This module focuses on specific techniques for sharing parental responsibilities with parents of children in foster care that focus on safety, well-being, and permanence.

Making and Maintaining Boundaries in Shared Parenting – This module helps foster parents make and maintain boundaries with children in foster care that assure the safety, well-being, and permanence for the children.

Fear and Control in Shared Parenting – This module helps foster parents explore ways to manage fear and control issues in the shared parenting relationships with parents of children in foster care.

Partnering with Parents Who Abuse Substances – This module builds foster parenting skills required when sharing parenting with parents who are addicted to alcohol or drugs. Participants learn about the medical model of addiction and possible recovery programs for parents of children in care.

Shared Parenting to Foster or Adopt Children From Families Where There is Domestic Violence – This module addresses the unique skills required of foster parents who care for children and youth who come from families where there has been domestic violence.

Shared Parenting to Foster or Adopt Children Whose Parents are Mentally Ill – This module, developed by a therapist and adoptive parent, helps foster parents share parenting with parents who are mentally ill so that the safety, well-being and permanence needs of these children will be met.

Prerequisite: Child Welfare in North Carolina or completion of other required pre-service training based on employment and functional responsibilities for NCDSS Child Welfare Staff **AND** Model Approach to Partnerships in Parenting-Group Preparation and Selection.

Who should attend? Certified MAPP-GPS Leaders who provide in-service training for foster and adoptive parents. Persons attending must be certified MAPP-GPS Leaders.

Contact Hours: 19.5 contact hours. This training can be credited toward the 24 hour continuing education component.

Maximum Number of Participants: 16

Minimum Number of Participants: 10