



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

2410 Mail Service Center • Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-2410  
Courier # 56-20-25

Michael F. Easley, Governor  
Carmen Hooker Odom, Secretary

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

March 16, 2007

**Dear County Director of Social Services**

**Attention: Child Welfare Supervisors**

**Re: 2007 Challenge for Children Training Opportunity  
Mr. Kevin Campbell, Family Finding Expert**

The Division is very pleased to announce that Mr. Kevin Campbell has agreed to come to North Carolina on May 10 and May 11, 2007 to conduct two one-day workshops on finding families for children lingering in the foster care system. Mr. Campbell is nationally recognized as an expert in finding relatives and has some remarkable examples of how his intervention has changed the lives of many children. Some of you may have seen him on a 60 Minutes segment last fall.

Developed five years ago in the State of Washington, "**Family Finding**", also known as intensive relative search, is being implemented in child welfare agencies as quickly as Mr. Campbell can train new trainers. In states as varied as Illinois, North Dakota and California, the process is changing the practice of social workers who once despaired over finding the relatives of children in long-term foster care. In some jurisdictions, the technique is used to forestall placements into foster care.

The Division invites child welfare supervisors and social workers to participate in this unique training opportunity. Mr. Campbell has asked us to also invite district court judges, and we encourage each county to personally invite your District Court Judge to participate. We have also asked Ms. Lana Dial from the Court Improvement Project to talk with the district court judges about this opportunity.

The Division has arranged for this training opportunity to be provided in Asheville and in New Bern. Each site is limited to 250 participants, and registrations will be accepted on a "first come, first served basis". The deadline for registration is May 1, 2007. If you need additional information, please contact Phyllis Fulton, Coordinator of Community Child Protection Teams, at (919) 733-2279 or by email at [phyllis.fulton@ncmail.net](mailto:phyllis.fulton@ncmail.net). Attached is the registration information.

We are encouraging all agencies to take advantage of this opportunity. We are certain that you will leave with a wealth of information and enthusiasm in making permanency a reality for all children in the foster care system.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Esther T. High".

Esther T. High, Acting Chief  
Family Support and Child Welfare Services Section

[Attachment](#)

cc: Sherry S. Bradsher  
Joann Lamm  
Family Support and Child Welfare Services Team Leaders  
Children's Services Programs Representatives  
Work First Program Representatives  
Lana Dial, Court Management Specialist, CIP

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