



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

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Michael F. Easley, Governor
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October 15, 2008

DEAR COUNTY DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES

ATTENTION: CHILD WELFARE SUPERVISORS AND LICENSING STAFF

SUBJECT: RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION OF FOSTER HOMES

Continuous recruitment and retention of foster homes are vital to effectively serve abused and neglected children. Recruitment and retention are also key components of our Program Improvement Plan as related to the federal Child and Family Services Review. As part of our ongoing work to enhance these efforts, the Division of Social Services is offering a special online learning opportunity on November 3, 2008.

A webinar (online seminar) produced by the Jordan Institute for Families entitled "Revitalizing Your Resource Family Recruitment and Retention Efforts" will be held on November 3, 2008 from 1:00 - 2:30 p.m. This training event will offer real-world examples and practical suggestions for recruitment and retention. Featured presenters will be Ruth Amerson and Jeff Olson. Ms. Amerson is the founder and director of Another Choice for Black Children and Mr. Olson is a Program Manager with the NC Division of Social Services.

Individuals can register for the webinar by contacting John McMahon (johnmcmahon@mindspring.com) with the Jordan Institute for Families. Mr. McMahon will collect the e-mails of the individuals who have registered and will send a link for the webinar before November 3, 2008. The deadline for registration is Wednesday, October 29, 2008. Please encourage your staff to participate.

Sincerely,

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

Charisse S. Johnson, Chief
Family Support and Child Welfare Services

cc: Sherry S. Bradsher
Jo Ann Lamm
Sarah Barham
Family Support and Child Welfare Services Team Leaders
Children's Services Program Representatives
Regulatory and Licensing Services Consultants

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