



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

Pat McCrory
Governor

Aldona Z. Wos, M.D.
Ambassador (Ret.)
Secretary DHHS

Wayne E. Black
Division Director

June 4, 2015

Dear County Director of Social Services:

Attention: Work First Program Administrators and Supervisors

Subject: Work First Program Substance Use and Mental Health Initiative Training

This letter is to provide information for the Work First Substance Use and Mental Health Initiative Training. Effective July 1, 2015, the Work First Program will implement changes to Work First Manual Section 104B to support North Carolina General Statute, [108A-29.1](#), Drug Screening and Testing for Work First Applicants and Recipients.

The Work First Program in collaboration with NC FAST, the Operational Support Team, and the Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services have developed a Work First Substance Use and Mental Health Initiative Webinar. The goal of the webinar is to provide county staff with policy and information regarding the changes to the Substance Use and Mental Health Initiative, the procedures for implementation, and the corresponding changes that will be made to NC FAST. The training is relevant to all staff, but especially to those most impacted by the revised policy: intake, eligibility, and employment services staff.

Please see the training schedule below:

DSS Directors, County Champions and other staff at the county's discretion are asked to participate on:
Tuesday, June 16, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Intake, Eligibility, Work First Employment Services, and other staff at the county's discretion are asked to participate on:
Wednesday, June 17, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

All other staff at the county's discretion are asked to participate on:
Thursday, June 18, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Each training session will last approximately three hours. To ensure that adequate resources are available for county and state staff to participate in the webinar sessions, county agencies are asked to email Mekella.Anthony@dhhs.nc.gov to reserve an access line. DSS staff are strongly encouraged to meet in a centralized location to view the webinar as a group.

Economic and Family Services
www.ncdhhs.gov • www.ncdhhs.gov/dss
Tel 919-527-6300 • Fax 919-334-1265

Location: Hargrove Building/Dix Campus • 820 S. Boylan Avenue • Raleigh, NC 27603

Mailing Address: 2420 Mail Service Center • Raleigh, NC 27699-2420

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Webinar participants will have the ability to type questions into the Chat pod during the webinar presentation. As time permits, the questions will be answered at the end of each webinar. A recording of the webinar will be made available to staff and colleagues who were not able to participate in one of the live sessions. Counties will be notified when the recorded webinar is available for viewing.

County DSS Directors must ensure that all key program staff have completed training prior to the July 1, 2015 implementation date. State representatives will be following up with counties to ensure this requirement is met.

The training webinar will be conducted via Adobe® Connect™. To access the Work First Program Substance Use and Mental Health Initiative Training click on the following link and follow the instructions for logon:

June 16, 2015: <https://ncdss.adobeconnect.com/workfirstjune16/>
June 17, 2015: <https://ncdss.adobeconnect.com/workfirstjune17/>
June 18, 2015: <https://ncdss.adobeconnect.com/workfirstjune18/>

If there are any questions or concerns, please contact Johnice Tabron via email at Johnice.Tabron@dhhs.nc.gov or Sharon Moore at Sharon.d.Moore@dhhs.nc.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David Locklear".

David Locklear, Chief
Economic and Family Services

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