



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

Economic Independence Section • 325 North Salisbury Street  
2420 Mail Service Center • Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-2420  
Courier # 56-20-25

Michael F. Easley, Governor  
Director  
Carmen Hooker Odom, Secretary

Pheon E. Beal,  
(919) 733-3055

January 30, 2002

### **Re: Work First Meetings**

Dear County Director of Social Services:

#### **Attention: Work First Supervisors**

We have been requested by county staff to provide forums for discussion of issues surrounding the Work First Program. These meetings will provide county and State staff an opportunity to identify areas of concern and possible solutions, provide consistent statewide training on high priority areas, and allow for all to have a better understanding of the overall Work First Program. It is our intent that these meetings cover cash benefits, employment services, and optional services under the Work First Program.

The first of these meetings has been scheduled during the month of February 2002. The topics reviewed will be appropriate for supervisors and lead workers, as well as line staff. Due to seating limitations, the number attending from each county will be limited. Our goal is to facilitate these meetings twice a year.

Please plan to attend this important meeting as we discuss ways to improve our administration of the Work First Program. We will be conducting three meetings across the State so that as many counties as possible will be able to participate. Each meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m. and adjourn at 3:00 p.m.

The meetings are scheduled as follows: (Directions are attached.)

**East  
Martin Community College**

Beaufort, Bertie, Camden, Carteret, Chowan, Craven, Currituck, Dare, Edgecombe, Franklin, Gates, Greene, Halifax, Hertford, Hyde, Jones, Lenoir, Martin, Nash, Northampton, Onslow, Pamlico, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Pitt, Tyrrell, Vance, Warren, Washington, and Wilson Counties.

**February 21, 2002  
Williamston, NC**

**Central  
Cumberland County DSS**

Alamance, Anson, Bladen, Brunswick, Caswell, Chatham, Columbus, Cumberland, Davidson, Duplin, Durham, Forsyth, Granville, Guilford, Harnett, Hoke, Johnston, Lee, Montgomery, Moore, New Hanover, Orange, Pender, Person, Randolph, Richmond, Robeson, Rockingham, Sampson, Scotland, Stanly, Stokes, Wake, and Wayne Counties.

**February 19, 2002  
Fayetteville, NC**

**West  
Western Piedmont Community College**

Alexander, Alleghany, Ashe, Avery, Buncombe, Burke, Cabarrus, Caldwell, Catawba, Cherokee, Clay, Cleveland, Davie, Gaston, Graham, Haywood, Henderson, Iredell, Jackson, Lincoln, Macon, Madison, McDowell, Mecklenburg, Mitchell, Polk, Rowan, Rutherford, Surry, Swain, Transylvania, Union, Watauga, Wilkes, Yadkin, and Yancey Counties.

**February 26, 2002  
Morganton, NC**

In order to properly plan for these meetings, please complete the attached form indicating the number of individuals who will attend from your county. Please provide your response no later than February 13, 2002. The mailing address and fax number is shown on the form. Depending on the response received and space availability, we may be able to accommodate requests from counties who would like to attend a location other than the one shown above.

Lunch will not be available for purchase at these meetings, as several restaurants are located within close proximity. Information concerning these restaurants will be made available at the meeting.

We look forward to your county's participation in this meeting and, should you have questions or concerns, please contact Gale Bullard at [gale.bullard@ncmail.net](mailto:gale.bullard@ncmail.net) or by phone at 919-733-7831. In addition, you may contact your Work First Representative.

Sincerely,

Wilbert R. Morris, Chief  
Economic Independence Section

WM/GB/bh  
Attachments  
**EI-6-2002**