

# Memorandum of Agreement

## NC DSS and Consulate General of Mexico

DSS Statewide DSS Director Webinar  
April 8, 2015

# Overview

- The MoA is similar to agreements in 29 other jurisdictions *(states & counties)* within USA
  - NC DSS and NCACDSS worked with Mississippi, Indiana, Iowa to understand their MoAs, then used what made sense for NC.
  - Identifies written procedures specific for Mexican Minors and/or Mexican-American Minors *(who are eligible for Mexican nationality as the biological minor of a Mexican national)*
  - It does not alter the day to day operations of NC DSS regarding protection and care for minor children

# Purpose of MoA:

- Protection of Mexican Minor(s)
  - Separated from their parent or guardian for a number of reasons, including abuse or neglect, and are now in the care of the State of North Carolina.
- Provide Early identification of Mexican Minors and their Families
- Facilitate Consular Notification & Access
- Reunite Mexican Minors who have been separated from their Families

# Summary of Provisions

- Determination of Mexican Parentage
- Notification to Mexican Consulate, including initial information to be provided and description of Consular involvement / access
- Mutual Cooperation
  - Birth certificates /documentation
  - Family location / Return coordination
  - Service coordination with Mexican National System for Integral Family Development
  - Training and community outreach activities

# Summary of Provisions (continued)

- Special Immigrant Juvenile Status for Mexican Minor
- Service Assistance through DIF (*Mexican National System for Integral Family Development*)
- Ongoing Communication between the Division and the Consulate
- Terms of agreement: March 25, 2015 – March 31, 2017

# Next Steps

- ▶ DCD Letter w/ Key Contacts
- ▶ Staff Training
  - Regional Meetings
  - Social Service Institute
  - Webinars