

MRS Conference Call Notes
April 2010

Counties Participating 4/20: Caswell, Catawba, Harnett, Hoke, Jackson, Johnston, Northampton, Person, Union, Washington, Yancey, Yadkin.

Counties Participating 4/28: Brunswick, Jackson, Lee, Macon, McDowell, New Hanover, Scotland, Wake

Counties Participating 4/29: Alamance, Anson, Avery, Forsyth, Gaston, Perquimans, Rockingham, Washington

Agenda

Announcements from Raleigh
Division of Child Development Presentation
Connect Pro – thoughts and suggestions
Standardized Documentation Tool – 215 and 109.

News from Raleigh

Letters

- 4/1 – Results of the abuser treatment survey (on-line survey).
- 4/5 – Change notice with changes to 1201 - child education status form.
- 4/12 – Letter regarding phase one of the SIS ID merge. Along with this came a report about the first stage of the merge. Came out as a terminal message.
- 4/14 – Letter with the 2009 MRS Evaluation
- 4/16 – Terminal message: Do not update 5027s for closed cases (if you need to update a SSN you cannot do that on a closed case). They will be sending out further information on how you can update these for closed cases (this is connected to the SIS merge). You can still update them on open cases.
- 4/18 – 5104 and RI L field 39. No longer required and no longer generates codes for expunction review.
- 4/19 – Letter regarding the Adam Walsh act and access to criminal records information. This is in regards to national records checks.

Announcements

- Harnett county wanted to announce that Cindy Milton was appointed as their new Director.

Presentation

Lorie Pugh Policy Consultant from the Division of Child Development did a presentation (for copy of PowerPoint see mrs listserve email or contact Holly) for us called "Infant/Toddler Foundations." This is a publication available to us that contains information that may be used to assist our families. It is available to parents, caregivers, and other people that work with infants and toddlers or that work with parents who have infants and toddlers.

Published in October 2008.

- Infant/Toddler Foundations

- Guidelines for Development and Learning for North Carolina's Children (Birth to 36 months)
- An Overview
- About this Publication
 - Describes
 - Characteristics
 - Skills
 - Knowledge
 - That we want children in North Carolina to develop from birth to 36 months of age
 - Companion to: Foundations – Early Learning Standards for North Carolina Preschoolers and Strategies for Guiding Their Success.
- Why Were they Written?
 - To raise awareness about how important the first three years of life are
 - To help infant/toddler caregivers focus on experiences that will make a difference in the lives of North Carolina's youngest children.
 - To give infant/toddler caregivers ideas about what to do to support children's development and learning
- The Guidelines are...
 - A tool for learning and reviewing
 - A reference for "next steps"
 - A resource to use when talking with families
- The Guidelines are NOT...
 - An infant/toddler curriculum
 - An infant/toddler checklist
 - Licensing requirements or any other type of regulation
- Guiding Principles and Practices
 - 9 Guiding Principles
 - 13 Practices
- A Real World Story
- Domains of Learning
 - Emotional and Social Development
 - Health and Physical Development
 - Approaches to Learning
 - Language Development and Communication
 - Cognitive Development
- Emotional and Social Development
 - Developing a Sense of Self
 - Developing a Sense of Self with Others
 - Learning About Feelings
- Health and Physical Development
 - Physical Health and Growth
 - Nutrition
 - Sleep
 - Physical Activity
 - Self-Care
 - Safety Awareness
 - Gross Motor/Large Muscle
 - Fine Motor/Small Muscle

- Approaches to Learning
 - Curiosity and Eagerness
 - Confidence, Risk-taking, and Problem-Solving
 - Attention, Effort, and Persistence
 - Imagination, Creativity, and Invention
 - Wonder and Delight
- Language Development and Communication
 - Receptive Language
 - Hearing
 - Listening
 - Understanding
 - Expressive Language
 - Talking
 - Communicating
 - Early Literacy
- Cognitive Development
 - Sensory Exploration and Discovery
 - Social Connections
 - Concept Development and Memory
 - Problem-Solving
 - Creative Expression
- Other Contents
 - Important milestones and deciding when to refer
 - Glossary of important terms
 - Resource information
 - Bibliography
- Infant/Toddler Foundations
 - Ordering information now on DCD website and pdf versions available for downloading
- Contact Information
 - NC Division of Child Development
 - 1-800-859-0829 (in state calls only)
 - 1-919-662-4499
 - www.ncchildcare.net

Standardized Documentation Tool for 215 and 109

Wanted to get thoughts from counties about what it should look like, items to be included, items to leave out? These suggestions will be shared with the workgroup.

Discussion 4/20:

- One issue that has come up is the redundancy of paperwork so wondered if CFT form could be incorporated in this paperwork.
 - Holly confirmed that this was the original intention – that is why the CFT form never had a form number, so that it could be rolled into this.
 - The CFT tool is documentation, so it does not need to be two places. If you reference it (specifically – not “see record” but “see documentation on page 2 regarding child care”) it is ok not to repeat it in other documentation papers.

- The foster care visitation tool is already extensive and has its own form number so it will be staying separate but need some kind of connection between that form, and the standardized documentation.
- Could there be something as simple as a check box asking “has the foster care visitation tool been completed” and have a date it was completed.
- Need place for diligent efforts.
- Union county has to do a monthly summary with their paperwork as well and they have passes bi-annual reviews for last 10 years. It is easy to follow but it covers everything and the reviews read it when they do reviews. She will email this to Holly to have this as a starting point.
- Another county will go back and ask for workers thoughts and come back to one of the other two phone calls and bring their thoughts.
- Wanted to know how this would be different from the monthly contact documentation.
 - This will be used for 215 as well, and also cover all the other things you document besides a visit (collateral contacts, getting medical and psych evaluations completed, etc.)

Discussion 4/28:

- One county feels that the inability of these tools not to be electronically incorporated into counties paperless records, is actually taking counties backwards and fragmenting records.
- Asked how many counties did things like the Foster Care Visitation form who did it electronically and who did it by hand.
- Some counties wants their workers to do it in the field, and so its hand written.
- If we are going to make this all one, then need to figure out how to incorporate the Visitation form so you aren’t going back and forth.
 - But Holly asked, if you want them to handwrite the Visitation form in the field, then how would you want us to avoid going back and forth?
 - Counties think that the foster parents like having the workers doing it in the field in front of them so that it is not a secret.
- 215 seems to be an area that doesn’t seem to have a lot of structure, but there is a lot that has to go into a narrative, so it will be a challenge to get everything in there, but will be helpful to have all the components in one place.

Discussion 4/29:

- It would be nice to have some section and see at a glance if they have met their standards of those visits and collaterals.
- Asked if they would see that as an ongoing dropdown or a month to month? Some liked each way.
- When you are transitioning from 215 to 109 have a standardized checklist to ensure you have covered everything that needs to happen at the time of custody.
- Holly gets consistent feedback that new workers really like the structured documents because it allows them to know that they have included everything in their documentation and haven’t inadvertently left anything out.
- Something to alert the worker that the TA period is expiring?
- This may be hard because its just a form, not a database, but they could put the date that it will come due somewhere on the form when they open the case so they will see it later on.