May 19, 2003

Dear County Director of Social Services

RE: Upcoming Training: Interdependent Living

Attention: Foster Care/Adoption Services

A four-day competency-based training focused on providing effective services to adolescents and young adults will be held in High Point/Greensboro on July 9, 10, 23 and 24. The training will help practitioners who work with adolescents in foster care by teaching youth development concepts and practices. The curriculum for this training was developed by practitioners and youth from eight Southern states, under the leadership of Southeastern Network and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Certified trainers for this curriculum are Joan McAllister, State coordinator of NC LINKS; Dee Hunt, trainer for the Division of Social Services and former coordinator of the Independent Living Program in Cleveland County; and Andi Korte, LINKS coordinator in Moore County.

Registration will be capped at 24 participants. No more than two registrants will be accepted from a single county or agency, in order to maximize the benefit to as many counties as possible. If the class is not full at the point of the closing date, more than two participants from a county may attend. Participants are expected to attend all four days of training in order to receive credit for the training. Registration for this training is now open. Registrations will close on June 17, or when the training slots are filled. The form can be downloaded from the Children's Services website at http://www.dbhs.state.nc.us/dss/childrensservices/ Select the Training tab and then click on the Training Registration Form. Fax your completed registration to Clarence Lamb at (919) 733-9204.

The enclosed brochure describes the development of the curriculum and includes responses to the pilot trainings that were conducted in several states last year. Please encourage your foster care staff who work with adolescents to consider this opportunity. There is no charge for the training, but the county agency will be responsible for travel and per diem costs.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

JoAnn Lamm, Program Administrator
Family Support and Child Welfare Services Section

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