DEAR COUNTY DIRECTORS OF SOCIAL SERVICES

DEAR EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS OF ADOPTION AGENCIES

ATTENTION: CHILD WELFARE STAFF

SUBJECT: FORM REVISIONS FOR ADOPTION RELATED FORMS

This letter is to inform county child welfare agencies and private agency partners of the ongoing initiative to update and streamline all adoption forms based on legislative requirements and feedback from stakeholders. In March 2015, all necessary adoption forms were amended to comply with the federal court’s decision declaring unconstitutional any state law that operates to deny same-sex couples the right to marry. Since that time, considerable and welcomed feedback has been provided to streamline and clarify some of those initial changes.

Changes to the adoption forms primarily consisted of language and formatting edits to improve clarity. The DSS-1802 and 1804 also included changes based on Session Law 2015-54 that required a consenting or relinquishing parent or guardian indicate their current address if any, and if none, their current mailing address.

The DSS-1820, 1821, 5225, and 5303 are forms specific to the NC Kids program. They have been updated to provide clarity and consistency in the information gathered to effectively recruit adoptive homes for waiting children and youth, as well as to more effectively match adoptive families with waiting children and youth. Please note that the DSS-5303 Request for NC Kids Registration Exemption now provides a section for closing an NC Kids case. Please use this section of the DSS-5303 for all NC Kids cases requiring closure.

The following adoption forms have been revised and are now available on the web:

DSS-1802 Consent to Adoption by Parent, Guardian ad Litem, or Guardian
DSS-1804 Relinquishment of Minor for Adoption
DSS-1808 Report on Proposed Adoption
DSS-1808ins Instructions for Completing Form DSS-1808
DSS-1814 Decree of Adoption
DSS-1815 Report to Vital Records
DSS-1816 Dismissal of Adoption
DSS-1820 NC Kids Child Registration Form
DSS-1821 NC Kids Family Registration Form
Spanish versions of the aforementioned adoption forms are pending.

If you have any questions regarding the forms revision process please contact Jamie Bazemore via: (919) 527-6371 or jamie.bazemore@dhhs.nc.gov.

Sincerely,

Kevin Kelley, Section Chief
Child Welfare Services