# Division of Child and Family Well-Being
## North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services

## NCDHHS's Established Vision for Children and Families

Children are healthy and thrive in safe, stable and nurturing families, schools and communities.

## Division of Child and Family Well-Being Basics

***What***: The Division of Child and Family Well-Being will bring together complementary programs from within the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS) that primarily serve children and youth to improve their health & well-being outcomes. These programs include:

- Nutrition programs for children, families, and seniors - Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), Food and Nutrition Services (FNS)/Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), and the Child & Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)
- Health-related programs and services for children and youth that enable health in their schools and communities, such as school health promotion, home visiting programs, supports for children and youth with special health care needs, genetics and newborn screening
- School and community mental health services for children and youth, including supporting children with complex needs, coordination with schools, systems of care work for families supported by multiple child service agencies, and supports for DSS-involved youth
- Early Intervention/Infant-Toddler Program, which provides supports and services to young children with developmental delays or established conditions.

***Why***: Across NCDHHS, we aim to make a positive impact on the lives of the people we serve and to ensure that programs and services reach those who need them the most. We are proud of how we transformed how we work as a team to serve children and families during an unprecedented global crisis. The Division of Child and Family Well-Being will build upon these lessons learned to further prioritize and coordinate whole child and family well-being by:

- **Enhancing how children and families access programs that support their well-being**: Coordination across programs serving children and families allows more families to access programs across mental, social, and health services. An early area of work will be making it easier for families to enroll in the nutrition programs in the division (e.g., WIC and FNS/SNAP).
- **Coordinating increased investments to improve child health and well-being**: The investments will be informed by data with a focus on closing equity gaps in child well-being. An early focus will be maximizing the impact of the federal American Rescue Plan funds.
- **Elevating the value of our teams supporting child and family well-being:** We are inspired by our team members who passionately work to improve the lives of children and families in North Carolina. Our commitment is to create a thriving culture where we celebrate our positive impact on child and family well-being.

***When***: The launch of the Division will be a phased process that will start in January 2022.

***Who***: Yvonne Copeland is the Division's first Director and is working closely with Dr. Charlene Wong (Assistant Secretary for Children and Families), Susan Gale Perry (Chief Deputy Secretary for Opportunity and Well-Being) and other senior leaders across the Department to establish the new Division.