





NC Department of Health and Human Services

Benchmarks Presentation

Presenter:
North Carolina Division of Social Services

February 9, 2023

Agenda

- CFSR Moment – Tracy Turner
- LINKS Regional Youth Listening Session- Tori Marshall
- Provider Agency Quarterly Meeting Update – Kimaree Sanders







CFSR Moment

Tracy Turner, Child and Family Services Plan Coordinator

February 9, 2023

Joint Planning – March 1, 2023 * 8:30am-3:30pm

WHO

NC DSS, partner county DSS agencies, courts, persons with lived experience, providers, tribes and additional CW stakeholders

WHAT

It is the activity/event where everyone comes together to provide information – input and feedback – that will be used in preparing the state's **Annual Progress and Services Report (APSR).** The APSR is submitted by June 30th each year, and it is a report to the federal Children's Bureau on **NC's performance and progress achieved towards:**

* Federal CW outcome benchmarks and systemic factor measures (36 total)
* CFSP's 4 strategic goals, related objectives and strategies
* Use of federal funding towards the above

WHEN / WHERE

Wed, March 1st, 2023 – 8:30am – 3:30pm - McKimmon Center, Raleigh, NC. CB will attend

WHY

NC values stakeholder input and partnership. It is required by CB for prep of APSR. It is an activity reported in APSR as example of stakeholder engagement. It is a process model for CFSR.







LINKS Regional Youth Listening Session
Updates Chafee Program

Tori Marshall
State LINKS Program Coordinator

February 9, 2023

What is Chafee?

- **The John H. Chafee Foster Care Independence Program also known as LINKS in North Carolina.**
- **Assists current and former eligible foster care youth and young adults to achieve self-sufficiency through support services, resources, and LINKS Special Funds.**
- **LINKS Special Funds are also known as North Carolina's transitional and housing funds.**

Chafee Services

- Youth Villages
- SaySo (Strong Able Youth Speaking Out)
- Orphan foundation
- NC Reach/ ETV

Youth & Adult Listening Session

Monday November 7, 2022
Hickory, NC

- **20 youth/young adults & 15 adults registered.**
- **Vendors included:**
  - **SaySo: Calvisha Wilson**
  - **Youth Villages: Sam McCarson**
  - **NC REACH: Wendy Kiser**
  - **OUTright Youth LGBT Center: Anna Gray**

Youth & Adult Listening Session

Saturday, January 21, 2022
Charlotte, NC

- **12 youth/young adults & 15 adults registered.**
- **Vendors included:**
  - **SaySo: Calvisha Wilson**
  - **Youth Villages: Sam McCarson**
  - **NC REACH: Wendy Kiser**
  - **OUTright Youth LGBT Center: Anna Gray**

Listening Session Feedback

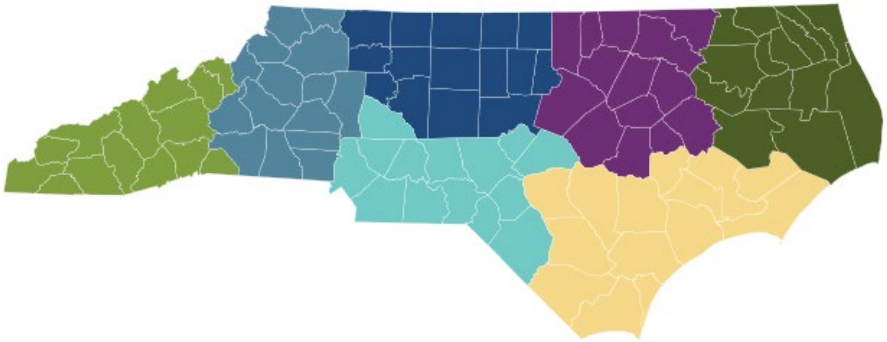
Youth

- **How can the system do better to support youth?**
- Explain what the foster youth experience is like to the general public Ex. School systems
- Prioritize sibling visitation
- Limit background check requirements
- Remove county seals from the cars used to transport youth.
- Extend the age
- **Tell me about LINKS:**
- 2 out of 5 enjoy their LINKS program
- LINKS programs need to be separated by age
- Making holiday gatherings and outings mandatory

Adults

- **What are some challenges?**
- Lack of housing
- Lack of placement
- **What can we do better as a state organization?**
- DSS Agencies being taken more seriously
- Preparing the youth ages 16-18 for transition
- Looking at kinship earlier for permanency
- Trainings
- Connecting with other LINKS groups
- Updating policy

Regional Listening Sessions



03/30/23 5 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Clyde, NC	11/07/2022 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Hickory, NC	03/16/2023 5 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Graham, NC	01/21/2023 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Charlotte, NC	02/16/2023 5 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Winterville, NC	04/15/2023 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Fayetteville, NC	05/20/2023 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Plymouth, NC
Region 1	**Region 2**	**Region 3**	**Region 4**	**Region 5**	**Region 6**	**Region 7**
1. Cherokee	1. Rutherford	1. Surry	1. Rowan	1. Granville	1. Columbus	1. Hartford
2. Graham	2. Cleveland	2. Stokes	2. Cabarrus	2. Vance	2. Brunswick	2. Gates
3. Clay	3. Gaston	3. Rockingham	3. Mecklenburg	3. Warren	3. New Hanover	3. Camden
4. Swain	4. Lincoln	4. Caswell	4. Stanly	4. Halifax	4. Bladen	4. Currituck
5. Macon	5. Iredell	5. Person	5. Union	5. Northampton	5. Pender	5. Pasquotank
6. Haywood	6. Alexander	6. Yadkin	6. Anson	6. Franklin	6. Cumberland	6. Perquimans
7. Jackson	7. Catawba	7. Forsyth	7. Montgomery	7. Nash	7. Sampson	7. Chowan
8. Transylvania	8. Burke	8. Guilford	8. Richmond	8. Edgecombe	8. Duplin	8. Bertie
9. Henderson	9. McDowell	9. Alamance	9. Moore	9. Wilson	9. Onslow	9. Martin
10. Buncombe	10. Wilkes	10. Orange	10. Lee	10. Pitt	10. Lenoir	10. Washington
11. Madison	11. Caldwell	11. Durham	11. Harnett	11. Wake	11. Jones	11. Tyrell
12. Yancey	12. Avery	12. Chatham	12. Hoke	12. Johnston	12. Craven	12. Dare
13. Mitchell	13. Watauga	13. Randolph	13. Scotland	13. Wayne	13. Pamlico	13. Hyde
14. Polk	14. Ashe	14. Davidson	14. Robeson	14. Green	14. Carteret	14. Beaufort
	15. Alleghany	15. Davie				

NC DSS LINKS & Foster Care 18-21

LINKS Coordinator: Tori Marshall

Tori.Marshall@dhhs.nc.gov

LINKS and Foster Care 18-21 Assistant: Lyrika Evans
Lyrika.Evans@dhhs.nc.gov

Special Programs Manager: Shirley Williams
Shirley.Williams@dhhs.nc.gov



Private Agency Quarterly Meetings

Meetings are on Thursday from 1-2:30pm

- **February 16, 2023**
- **May 18, 2023**
- **August 17, 2023**
- **November 16, 2023**