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NC Collaborative for Children, Youth and Families

DATE: July 24, 2020

Child Well-Being Transformation Council:

The Child Well-Being Transformation Council wrapped up their work on July 20th with the development of three draft bills and a final report. Their original task was to make recommendations related to the coordination, collaboration and communication among agencies and organizations involved in providing public services to children. The Council developed sixteen recommendations that are included in the three draft bills. The report has been sent to the chairs of the House and Senate Health and Human Services Appropriations Committees, the Joint Legislative Committee on Health and Human Services and the Fiscal Research Division. Their work was done in tandem with the Social Services Working Group. Both looked at issues related to the child welfare services in North Carolina, including regionalizing the State services and supports for local departments of social services. In 2017, the NC General Assembly passed Rylan's Law ([SL2017-41](#)), to provide authority for reform of the child welfare system. In 2019 NC DHHS and NC Office of State Budget and Management published the final [Child Welfare Reform Plan](#). These final recommendations are a part of the ongoing work in the State to improve the public human services for children. Many of the recommendations are tasks for NC DHHS. The recommendations span areas such as: keeping foster care children in communities, using standardized tools for trauma-informed assessments, data sharing, social service regions, confidentiality reviews that allow for coordination across departments and agencies. Note that a few changes were made, for example, the Education Cabinet was not recommended for elimination.

All handouts, including the draft final report, for 7-20-20 meeting can be found at: <https://www.ncleg.gov/Documents/392#Minutes%20and%20Handouts\08-%2007-20-20%20-%20Eighth%20Council%20Meeting>

National Suicide Prevention 3-Digit Phone Number Becoming Available:

988

On July 16th, the Federal Communications Commission voted unanimously to finalize **988** as the number Americans can call to be directed to the 24/7 National Suicide Prevention Lifeline hotline. The three-digit number will become available starting on July 16th, 2022.

Currently, individuals in suicidal crisis can reach that hotline by dialing 1-800-273-8255 (TALK). In addition, North Carolina has a crisis hotline through Hope 4 NC at: 1-855-587-3463 (FIND).

NC DHHS Updated Guidance for Schools:

<https://covid19.ncdhhs.gov/guidance#schools>