

## Consolidated Human Services Board Training

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# Board Authority and Responsibilities

#### N.C. Department of Health and Human Services

 G.S. 108A-1 states that every county shall have a board of social services or a consolidated human services board created pursuant to GS 153A-77(b) which shall establish county policies for the programs established by this chapter in conformity with the rules and regulations of the Social Services Commission and under the supervision of the Department of Health and **Human Services.** 



## Boards of Social Services have the following duties and responsibilities:

- (1) To select the county director of social services
- (2) To advise county and municipal authorities in developing policies and plans to improve the social conditions of the community;
- (3) To consult with the director of social services about problems relating to this office, and assist planning budgets



#### N.C. Department of Health and Human Services

- (4) To present the budgets of the county department of social services for public assistance, social services and administration to the board of county commissioners;
- (5) To have such other duties and responsibilities as the General Assembly, the Department of Health and Human Services or the Social Services Commission or the board of county commissioners may assign to it.



#### Administration of Public Assistance Programs:

- Public assistance programs provide assistance to recipients; such as Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), Medicaid and Special Assistance (SA).
- Counties are required by state law to administer public assistance programs. These mandated programs involve a mix of federal, state, and county funding.



#### Administration of Social Services Programs:

Many services that do not involve financial assistance are provided by county social services departments. These include:

- Protective Services for Children and Adults
- Child Placement Services
- Permanency Planning Services
- Child Care
- Adoptions
- Guardianship
- Child-Support Enforcement



#### Relationships with Counties

 Counties are the primary partners with DHHS in fulfilling its mandates from the Governor, General Assembly and federal government. Just like the authority for the programs administered, the relationship between the counties and the state can vary from program to program.



#### Managing the Complexity – Top 5

- Set a Productive Agenda
- Be familiar with program data
- Understand program/service budgets and the varying funding streams
- Focus on outcomes
- Understand community needs



### Questions