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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

Lori A. Weaver
Commissioner

Marie E. Noonan
Director

129 PLEASANT STREET, CONCORD, NH 03301-3857
603-271-4451 1-800-852-3345 Ext. 4451
Fax: 603-271-4729 TDD Access: 1-800-735-2964 www.dhhs.nh.gov

October 21, 2024

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu
and the Honorable Council
State House
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

REQUESTED ACTION

Pursuant to RSA 21-I:54, authorize the Department of Health and Human Services, Division for Children, Youth and Families, to **retroactively** continue one full-time temporary 21-1090 MISC SOC SVC SPECS-6, Position 8T3129, SOC 21 Pay band 6, effective October 6, 2024, upon Governor and Council approval through October 5, 2025. 100% Federal Funds.

Funding is available in account Promoting Safe-Stable Families as follows:

	<u>FY 2025</u>	<u>FY 2026</u>
05-95-42-421010-29730000-050-500109 Part-Time Salaries	\$63,445	\$23,375
05-95-42-421010-29730000-060-500601 Benefits	<u>\$28,884</u>	<u>\$10,641</u>
Total	\$92,329	\$34,016

EXPLANATION

This request is **retroactive** due to an administrative oversight. The prior Governor and Council authorization for this position previously ended on October 5, 2024.

This position oversees the Kinship Program that solely focuses on kin and fictive kin caregivers who provide placement for youth entering the Division for Children, Youth and Families (DCYF) care. This position manages contracts delivering critical services to youth in New Hampshire and collaborates internally with DHHS staff and externally with advocates and kinship caregivers. This position is responsible for program planning, development, and evaluation through the use of data. This position is also responsible for developing policy and administrative rules pertaining to kinship, as well as the implementation of practice procedures.

The Kinship program is critical as studies show that children who are placed with family or in a familiar setting with fictive kin, are exposed to less trauma and have an increased likelihood of achieving timely permanency, which results in positive outcomes for the youth DCYF serves.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lori A. Weaver
Commissioner