



EBCI TRIBAL OPTION

For Providers



February 2026 Provider Newsletter

What is the EBCI Tribal Option?

EBCI Tribal Option assists approximately 5,700 Tribal-eligible Medicaid beneficiaries, primarily in Cherokee, Haywood, Swain, Jackson, and Graham counties.

[Learn More](#)

Children and Families Specialty Plan Launched Dec. 1, 2025

The Children and Families Specialty Plan (CFSP) is a new NC Medicaid Managed Care health plan. It is a single, statewide health plan managed by Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina under the name Healthy Blue Care Together.

The health plan is part of North Carolina's commitment to improve the long-term health and well-being of children in child welfare services and to strengthen and support their families.

The CFSP launched Dec. 1, 2025. It is designed to provide beneficiaries with seamless, integrated, coordinated health care. With a statewide health plan beneficiaries have access to the health care they need, including mental health services, and can continue to receive care from their providers if their foster care placement causes them to move to another location in the state.

CLICK HERE TO VISIT [MEDICAID.NCDHHS PROVIDER PLAYBOOK](https://www.ncdhhs.gov/medicaid-provider-playbook)

Fact Sheet: What Providers Need to Know Before Children and Families Specialty Plan Launch

What Providers Need to Know After Children and Families Specialty Plan Launch, Part 2

Provider Quick Reference Guide for the Children and Families Specialty Plan

Trending Topics

Key updates and important information for NC Medicaid Managed Care Providers.

Fact Sheets

Fact sheets, guides and materials to get ready for NC Medicaid Managed Care.

Frequently Asked Questions

List of common provider questions related to NC Medicaid Managed Care

Training Courses

Webinars, training opportunities, and upcoming events.

Beneficiary Materials

Enrollment notices and beneficiary resources for NC Medicaid Managed Care.

Fee Schedule Archives

Fee schedules archives for NC Medicaid Managed Care.

February Hot Topics

Trauma-Informed Workforce Wellness Training for Western NC

NCDHHS and the [Center for Child and Family Health](#) are partnering to provide trauma-

NAMIWalks 2026: Together for Mental Health

Virtual Launch

Solidarity Through Resilience: A Convening of Hope

DMH/DD/SUS Director Kelly Crosbie will deliver the keynote address at the [Immigrant Mental Health Solidarity](#)

informed wellness supports for child welfare, adult protective services, and mental health professionals in the 27 western counties impacted by Hurricane Helene.

Supports include supervision techniques, morale-building strategies, community connections, psychoeducation on trauma and burnout, grief support, case consultation, and low-impact debriefing. [Register for the trainings](#) to reserve your spot. For more information, download the [training flyer](#).

Join NAMIWalkers for an inspiring evening to officially launch the [2026 NAMIWalks](#) season on February 10 at 7:00 p.m. This event celebrates the power of community and sets the stage for a year of purpose and momentum.

[NAMIWalks](#) is a nationwide movement organized by the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI). It's more than a walk—it's a powerful way for individuals, families, and communities to show that mental health matters. Every step helps fund education, advocacy, and support for those affected by mental illness. [Register to participate in this virtual kick-off event.](#)

[Network](#)'s second annual convening, presented by [El Futuro](#) and [NC Counts Coalition](#). This gathering will bring people together to strengthen resilience and build connections while engaging in dialogue about immigrant mental health in North Carolina.

Attendees will hear updates on the network's future direction and take part in learning sessions focused on key issues impacting immigrant communities. The event will take place March 2-3, 2026, at the [McKimmon Center in Raleigh](#). Check-in begins at 8:30 a.m. Space is limited, so early registration is encouraged. [Register today](#) to join this important conversation.



North Carolina Child Welfare Trauma-Informed Assessment (NC CWTIA) Request for Applications (RFA)

Issued by: North Carolina Health and Human Services, Division of Social Services

Release Date: January 15, 2026

Application Due Date: March 15, 2026, 11:59 p.m.

Notification of Selection: April 6-10, 2026

Point of Contact: Kristin Reed at kreed@benchmarksnc.org

1. Purpose and Background

North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services Division of Social Services (NCDHHS DSS) in coordination with North Carolina Medicaid Health Plans is seeking provider agencies to participate in the implementation of the North Carolina Child Welfare Trauma-Informed Assessment (NC CWTIA)—a standardized, trauma-informed clinical assessment process for children and youth involved with county Departments of Social Services (DSS).

The purpose of the assessment is to support children who are entering, or at risk of entry into, the foster care system and who may have experiences or needs that place them at higher risk for requiring behavioral health and other clinical or non-clinical interventions. The assessment is intended to help identify and understand these needs to inform appropriate support and services in coordination with the Division and other agencies. Selected providers will engage in training, ongoing clinical coaching, and fidelity monitoring to ensure high-quality, consistent assessments for the eligible population statewide.

2. Legislative and Funding Reference

This initiative is mandated by [Section 9J.12 of Session Law 2023-134](#) and aims to identify mental health, behavioral health, intellectual, and developmental disability needs resulting from trauma exposure. This service shall be covered under the [NC Medicaid Clinical Coverage Policy 8C-7.3.3](#). Additional guidance regarding this service will be issued by the Division of Health Benefits (DHB) and published in a provider bulletin.

3. Program Overview

The NC CWTIA is an in-depth evaluation conducted by licensed, trauma-informed clinicians. It is designed to help care teams, including DSS child welfare workers, mental health professionals, caregivers, and other youth-involved providers and professionals understand how a child's experiences, including exposure to trauma, impact their functioning, diagnosis, and service needs.

Program Goals:

- Promote early, accurate diagnosis and timely connection to appropriate services.
- Reduce reliance on crisis and residential placements.
- Strengthen collaboration among DSS, health plans, and provider networks.
- Build sustainable trauma-informed clinical capacity statewide.

[Click Here To View NC-CWTIA Request For Applications](#)

FEBRUARY 2026 ♥





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