

Foster Care News



Music on the Farm

with John Cockman & Family
and the Blue Ridge Fiddle Orchestra



August 10 6-8pm
Hodges Family Farm
1493 Linville Creek Rd
Vilas, NC

Bring a lawn chair & picnic dinner & enjoy a night of family fun. Desserts will be sold to support foster, kinship, & adoption in the High Country.



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Upcoming Events

Important Dates

MAPP Classes

Foster Parent
Shoutouts

Staff Updates

Staff Profile

Summer Splash!

Celebrating Watauga DSS
Foster & Adoptive Families



SUNDAY AUGUST 11 3-6PM

Robbins Pool & Pavilion
173 Lakeside Dr
Blowing Rock, NC



Refreshments Provided
RSVP Alice Langseth
828.265.8100
alice.langseth@watgov.org



Child Welfare Staff

Melanie Ellis:	Child Welfare Supervisor
Chad Slagle:	Foster Care Supervisor
Lisa Austin:	Intake SW
Mandy Davis:	Investigative SW
Anna Lunsford:	Investigative SW
Kelly Stroud:	Investigative SW
Janie Finnin:	In-Home SW
Gina Cantando:	Foster Care SW
Meredith Cole:	Foster Care SW
Steve Collins:	Foster Care SW
Sophia Simmons:	Foster Care SW
Alice Langseth:	Licensing/LINKS SW
Amy Bateman:	Adoptions SW

Foster Care News

Important Dates!!

July \$\$:

Watauga Co Back to School Festival:

Avery Co Schools Start:

Ashe Co Schools Start:

Watauga Co Schools Start:

MAPP Classes Start:

August 9

August 10 @ WHS

August 14

August 19

August 19

September 5



BACK 2 SCHOOL FESTIVAL

AUGUST 10 2024 AT WATAUGA HIGH SCHOOL

9am – Parkway & Green Valley

10:30am – Valle Crucis, Cove Creek, & Blowing Rock

12:30pm – Hardin Park & Bethel

2pm – Two Rivers, Homeschool, & Mabel

High school students attend during your school district's time slot



Foster Care News

Introducing

Mandy Davis, Investigative/Assessment and Treatment Social Worker

Hi, my name is Mandy Davis. I am from Chocowinity, NC. I enjoy hanging out with my dog, Rugby, and being with my family and friends. I recently graduated from Appalachian State University with a Master of Social Work. In my undergraduate career, I was a Guardian ad Litem in Burke County. In my graduate career, I interned with The Appalachian State University Police Department. I created the first full-time embedded social work position in a university police department in NC and the fourth in the Country. I am an author of two academic journals. I have always had a passion for social work and I am so happy to share that with this wonderful community.



MAPP CLASSES

- What:** Model Approach to Partnership in Parenting, 10 – week Class
- When:** Thursday, September 5, 2024, 5:30-8:30pm
- Where:** Watauga County DSS, 2nd floor conference room
- Who:** Anyone in the Watauga County vicinity that is interested in becoming a foster parent
- Why:** Because We Need You!
- Contact:** Alice Langseth, 828.265.8100 or alice.langseth@watgov.org

Stay up-to-date on events & information on our Facebook page! Make sure to follow *Watauga County Foster & Adopt* on Facebook for all the latest details and updates!



Foster Care News



Thank you to all the kinship, foster, and adoptive parents who give their time, energy, and most importantly LOVE for all our children and young people that are in our care. We could not do this job without you!

We want to give a special shoutout to a group of people who have provided placement - sometimes at the last moment - for a sibling group that we've faced challenges finding placement.

Thank you to Brooke Moretz, Heather Canipe, Megan Baugh, Amber Kimbro, Jake Orange & Dean Philyaw and their families & friends who have supported these teens and their foster care workers.



It takes a VILLAGE and we love our village!



Referral Incentive

If you refer an individual or family that completes the MAPP class, you can receive a \$100 gift card



ADOPT
If you can't adopt
FOSTER
If you can't foster
VOLUNTEER
If you can't volunteer
DONATE
If you can't donate
EDUCATE