



Department of Children & Youth

Southwest Ohio Regional Training Center

420 Wards Corner Rd., Suite J, Loveland, OH 45140 (513)248-1269

STAFF & SUPERVISOR ONGOING TRAINING
FALL 2026

Link for anyone with an OH ID: Log In OH ID Ohio's State Digital Identity Standard
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Link for Guest Registration Information: SWORTC – Ohio CAPS

Training Requirements:

- Caseworkers are required to complete thirty-six hours of training in areas relevant to the caseworkers assigned duties each year
- Supervisors are required to complete thirty hours of training in areas relevant to the supervisors assigned duties each year
- Caseworkers and Supervisors must complete Domestic Violence and Human Trafficking training within the first two years of hire. Training courses that meet this mandate are identified in CAPS LMS as meeting HT and DV training requirements.

The annual training requirement for Caseworkers and Supervisors is based on their Training Compliance Date (date of hire or promotion date -this can be found in the CAPS User Profile), not the calendar year. **For example**, if a caseworker/supervisor is hired or promoted on October 12, 2024, the training compliance period would run from October 12, 2024, through October 12, 2025.

Date	Training	Locator #	Trainer	Time	Location
10/02/2026	Dealing with Difficult Behaviors in the Professional Setting: Lessons for Bringing out the Best in Anybody	28432	Dan Houston	9:00 to 4:00	Virtual
10/05/2026 and 10/06/2026 Meets OAC Training Requirement	Domestic Violence: Facts and Fundamentals	23133	Brian Bethel	9:00 to 4:00 Both Days	SWORTC
10/05/2026 NEW!	Working with Unhoused Youth and Families	30439	Karen Setterlin	9:00 to 12:00	SWORTC
10/05/2026 NEW!	Working with Unhoused Youth and Families	30440	Karen Setterlin	1:00 to 4:00	SWORTC
10/05/2026 NEW!	A Smooth Transition: Taking the Step from Worker to Supervisor	30681	Diana Hoover	9:00 to 12:00	Virtual
10/13/2026	Lessons Learned for the Modern World of Social Work and Counseling: The Ethics of Dr. Victor Frankenstein	29411	Linda Davis	9:00 to 12:15	Virtual
10/15/2026 and 10/16/2026 Meets OAC Training Requirement	Identifying and Responding to Child and Youth Victims of Human Trafficking	31217	Vanessa Torres Micayla Wilson Nicolina Nolletti	9:00 to 12:30 Both Days	Virtual
10/16/2026 NEW!	Distinguishing Between Poverty and Neglect	32311	Dave Thomas	9:00 to 4:00	SWORTC
10/19/2026	When You Feel Like Hitting and Screaming	30685	Ruby Johnston	9:00 to 4:00	Virtual

10/20/2026	Dealing with Your Own Anxiety	30684	Ruby Johnston	9:00 to 4:00	SWORTC
10/22/2026	The First Cut is the Deepest: An Overview of Self-Injurious Behavior	28859	Brian Bethel	9:00 to 4:00	SWORTC
10/22/2026	Zebras Don't Get Ulcers: Ways to Manage Stress	29764	Linda Davis	9:00 to 4:00	Virtual
10/27/2026	Dominoes and the Slippery Slope: Ethical Dilemmas as Revealed in the Emperor's Club	29808	Linda Davis	9:00 to 4:00	Virtual
10/28/2026 and 10/29/2026 and 10/30/2026	Beyond the Silence: Forensic Interviewing Part One	29974	Heidi Malott	9:00 to 4:00 First two days 9:00 to 12:00 Last Day	SWORTC
10/29/2026	The Wizard of Oz and Building Your Own Team	30176	Linda Davis	9:00 to 4:00	Virtual
10/29/2026 and 10/30/2026 Meets OAC Training Requirement	Identifying and Responding to Child and Youth Victims of Human Trafficking	31219	Vanessa Torres Micayla Wilson Nicolina Nolletti	9:00 to 12:30 Both Days	Virtual
11/02/2026	From Blue to Black Youth with the Blues: Understanding and Managing Mood Disorders in Youth	31641	Jim Still Pepper	9:00 to 4:00	Virtual
11/03/2026 and 11/04/2026	Safe and Supported: Empowerment Self Defense for Social Service Professionals	27100	Lauren Bailey and Lindsey Falcon	9:00 to 4:00 Both Days	SWORTC

11/04/2026	Burnout, Secondary Trauma, and Self-Care	26046	Faye Perkins	9:00 to 4:00	SWORTC
11/04/2026	Using Nemo and Pinocchio to Build Attachment During Visits	29768	Linda Davis	9:00 to 4:00	Virtual
11/05/2026	Child Protection Worker Safety: Planning for Safe Home Visits	30680	Lauri Wolfe	9:00 to 4:00	Virtual
11/10/2026	An Overview of Codependency: The Need to be Needed	28968	Brian Bethel	9:00 to 4:00	SWORTC
11/13/2026	Cannabis and Child Safety: The Law, the Science, and Why they Matter	29781	Matt Butler	9:00 to 12:15	Virtual
11/16/2026	Should I Be Concerned? What is Normal and What is Not	31644	Jim Still Pepper	9:00 to 4:00	Virtual
11/17/2026	Enhancing Visitation	29185	Linda Davis	9:00 to 4:00	Virtual
11/18/2026	Optimizing Health, Development, and Safety Outcomes for Substance Exposed Infants	31146	Ronna Johnson	9:00 to 4:00	Virtual
11/19/2026 and 11/20/2026 Meets OAC Training Requirement	Domestic Violence: Facts and Fundamentals	25031	Brian Bethel	9:00 to 4:00 Both Days	SWORTC
11/19/2026 and 10/20/2026 Meets OAC Training Requirement	Identifying and Responding to Child and Youth Victims of Human Trafficking	31220	Vanessa Torres Micayla Wilson Nicolina Nolletti	9:00 to 12:30 Both Days	Virtual

07/02/2026 (A)

11/20/2026	Families Navigating the Legal Status and Child Welfare Issues	32148	Katy Mercer	9:00 to 4:00	Virtual
12/02/2026	Partnering with Schools: A Caregiver's Guide for Advocating for your Children	31449	Kristen King	9:00 to 12:00	Virtual
12/03/2026	Fostering Healing, Resiliency, and Hope for Children who have Experienced Trauma	32412	Mary Vicario	9:00 to 4:00	SWORTC
12/04/2026	Exploring Personal Perspectives in Child Sexual Abuse Cases	32202	Mary Eck	10:00 to 2:45	Virtual
12/07/2026 and 12/08/2026 Meets OAC Training Requirement	Domestic Violence: Facts and Fundamentals	25741	Brian Bethel	9:00 to 4:00 Both Days	SWORTC
12/10/2026 and 12/11/2026 Meets OAC Training Requirement	Identifying and Responding to Child and Youth Victims of Human Trafficking	31221	Vanessa Torres Micayla Wilson Nicolina Nolletti	9:00 to 12:30 Both Days	Virtual
12/11/2026	Stress and Coping Skills - Survival Skills for Child Welfare Workers	29936	Dan Houston	9:00 to 4:00	Virtual
12/14/2026	How Do I Talk to My Child About Adoption	29186	Linda Davis	9:00 to 4:00	Virtual
12/16/2026 NEW!	Unintentional Ingestions of Marijuana Edibles and Exposure to other Illegal Substances by Children	31154	Michelle Bestic	9:00 to 11:30	Virtual

12/17/2026	The DSM: The Evolution from Madness to the DSM-5 TR	29412	Linda Davis	9:00 to 4:00	Virtual
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Workshop Descriptions

Dealing with Difficult Behaviors in the Professional Setting: Lessons for Bringing out the Best in Anybody

In this course, you will focus on identifying and understanding individuals who display difficult behavior and explore ways to act and feel when faced with individuals who "drive us nuts". By using evidence-based practices, you will learn more about yourself, uncover why individuals exhibit unwanted behaviors, and explore effective tools to not only minimize the effects of behaviors but also help individuals understand that more productive behaviors might help one meet six basic human needs.

Objectives

- Identify the ten unwanted and difficult behaviors
- Explain the four intentions that motivate unwanted behaviors
- Apply strategies for responding effectively to unwanted behaviors

Domestic Violence: Facts and Fundamentals

Despite the growing prevalence of domestic violence in our society, it remains one of the most under-reported crimes in the United States. Unfortunately, the secrecy surrounding the issue of intimate partner violence has only served to perpetuate many myths and misconceptions about the causes and treatment of domestic violence. Child welfare professionals are commonly some of the first professionals who serve families in which domestic violence is present. Therefore, child welfare professionals must maintain competencies for working with all parties in domestic violence cases.

This educational curriculum offers an overview of domestic violence. Participants will be exposed to the dynamic of domestic violence, specific laws that address domestic violence in the state of Ohio, as well as specific strategies for assessing risk in domestic violence cases and developing and implementing safe plans once domestic violence is identified.

This training meets the requirement that caseworkers and supervisors must take an OCWTP approved domestic violence training within their first two years of employment

Working with Unhoused Youth and Families

This course examines the nuances of working with youth and families who are unhoused or who have experienced homelessness. Issues such as lack of affordable housing, unemployment, and underemployment, as well as psychosocial factors such as untreated mental illness and substance use disorders, have contributed to increased rates of homelessness in our communities. Sometimes these issues lead to involvement with child protective services. Upon completion of the course, participants will understand the challenges faced by unhoused youth and families and how, as individuals and systems, we can mitigate some of those adverse impacts.

Objectives:

- Recognize the short- and long-term impacts that homelessness has on youth and families in multiple domains.
- Understand the basic tenets and the need for trauma-informed practices with this population.
- Increase awareness of different lived experiences and respect for different backgrounds and inherent strengths of unhoused youth and families.

A Smooth Transition: Taking the Step from Worker to Supervisor

This workshop is designed for newer supervisors and lead workers with roles in overseeing people. Attendees will learn about the supervisory role, personal strengths, planning, decision making, delegating, worker accountability, and meeting management.

Lessons Learned for the Modern World of Social Work and Counseling: The Ethics of Dr. Victor Frankenstein

This workshop will identify and explore ethical dilemmas as represented in the novel Frankenstein by Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley. The themes, ethical dilemmas, and lessons learned by the actions of Dr. Victor Frankenstein will be discussed. The discussions and film examples will assist in relating the ethical dilemmas in Frankenstein to those in the child protective services ethics, practice, and standards.

Objectives

- Identify the different ethical dilemmas that Dr. Victor Frankenstein (in the novel, Frankenstein) faced and how those issues are similar dilemmas in child protective services practice
- Understand the ethical issues that are presented in the novel Frankenstein and discuss how these issues relate to ethical standards and guidelines of Counseling and Social work
- Identify ethical codes, categories, and standards of practice of the American Counseling Association and the National Association of Social Work and discuss what Counselors and Social Workers can learn from the ethical struggles of Dr. Frankenstein

Identifying and Responding to Child and Youth Victims of Human Trafficking

This presentation is tailored to professionals in the child welfare system to help them learn how to identify and respond to child and youth victims of human trafficking. This interactive presentation, presented by a survivor led multi-disciplinary team in partnership with the Governor's Human Trafficking Task Force, will cover the following: defining human trafficking; screening referrals of human trafficking; screening children and youth for experiences of human trafficking; identifying victims of human trafficking in CCWIS; assessing safety, child vulnerabilities and risk contributors in cases of human trafficking; safety planning with victims of human trafficking; family case planning with victims of human trafficking; federal and state requirements guiding the child welfare system's response to human trafficking; and building a multi-disciplinary, trauma-responsive approach to human trafficking.

This training meets the requirement that caseworkers and supervisors must take an OCWTP approved human trafficking training within their first two years of employment.

Distinguishing Between Poverty and Neglect

This course examines the differences between child neglect and the challenges that may arise from limited financial resources. Participants will review relevant sections of the Ohio Revised Code, including the definition of neglect, and apply this knowledge to case examples. The course also addresses how to assess reports of possible neglect and reviews data related to economic hardship. Neglect will be discussed in the context of Ohio's Screening Guidelines and the Comprehensive Assessment and Planning Model (CAPM).

Objectives

- Define poverty and neglect as outlined by the Ohio Revised Code (ORC) and Ohio Administrative Code (OAC).
- Recognize the impact of personal perceptions and societal stereotypes about poverty that can influence their decision-making processes and interactions with families experiencing poverty.
- Distinguish poverty-related challenges from situations of child neglect.
- Identify strategies for working effectively with families from different socioeconomic backgrounds.
- Apply the Comprehensive Assessment and Planning Model (CAPM) to assess safety, risk, and service planning without conflating poverty with neglect.

When You Feel Like Hitting and Screaming

Managing temper can be annoying! Yes, annoying. Sometimes it is easy to hit, scream, or kick. However, being an adult requires control and management. This workshop will deal with our emotional response to conflict. We will examine emotional intelligence, conflict resolution, and problem solving in this workshop and leave with a plan to "act like an adult," even in the most disgusting situation.

Dealing with Our Own Anxiety

Yes, we deal with anxious people all the time and sometimes the most difficult one to deal with is ourselves. We will look at anxiety from both a personal perspective and a professional one. If we are to be effective in today's growing crisis situations, we must understand anxiety, recognize the impact it will have on our job, those served, and self. Daily, people come to our offices – defeated. Daily we wonder how we can once again impart hope when we are wondering about our own hope. Come to this workshop. There are no great promises, but we WILL walk away encouraged and able to see choices for ourselves and choices we can offer those served, staff, or colleagues.

The First Cut is the Deepest: An Overview of Self-Injurious Behavior

Self-injury has become a tragic occurrence in the United States. Self-injurious behavior has been called "the new anorexia" based upon the rapid increase in prevalence. Many individuals utilize self-injurious behavior as a means of coping with intense emotions, low self-esteem, and poor impulse control. Consequently, child protective services professionals often confront individuals who engage in some form of self-injurious behavior. This workshop will offer a general overview of the various types of self-injury. Participants will be exposed to the various risks associated with self-injurious behaviors. Additionally, participants will be exposed to a variety of therapeutic methods that are used in treating individuals who self-injure.

Zebras Don't Get Ulcers: Ways to Manage Stress

This workshop equips child protective services staff with practical strategies to manage stress in both their professional and personal lives while strengthening their ability to support parents, caregivers, and children involved in casework services. Participants will complete self-assessment tools to increase self-awareness, identify sources of stress, and practice techniques that promote well-being, productivity, and resilience for themselves and the clients they serve.

Objectives

- Identify personal stressors and describe associated physical and emotional symptoms using a structured stress self-assessment
- Select and practice evidence-based coping strategies to manage identified stressors, including relaxation, breathing, cognitive, time-management, and boundary-setting techniques
- Explain the physiological and psychological effects of stress and demonstrate at least one mindfulness and one assertive communication technique
- Apply stress-reduction strategies through interactive exercises and identify at least two tools or activities that can be shared with caregivers, parents, and children
- Develop a personal stress-management action plan and outline strategies for supporting clients in building effective stress-management skills

Dominoes and the Slippery Slope: Ethical Dilemmas as Revealed in the Emperor's Club

During this workshop, participants will explore the ethical dilemmas presented in the Emperor's Club and other Hollywood films. In these films, examples will be presented that will illustrate appropriate and inappropriate ethical decision-making. The theoretical concept of the slippery slope and the domino effect will be discussed as they relate to these ethical dilemmas encountered by the characters. Further discussion and exploration will occur as to how these characters' decision-making skills relate to practice.

Objectives

- Identify ethical decision-making skills that assist with ethical dilemmas
- Explore how the slippery slope and the dominoes theory affect ethical decision making
- Identify ethical dilemmas in the film, The Emperor's Club, and other Hollywood films, and discuss how those decisions had a domino effect on other decisions
- Identify how those inappropriate and appropriate decisions in The Emperor Club and other film characters can be applied to the field of child protective services

Beyond the Silence: Forensic Interviewing Part One

This workshop focuses on the forensic interview, with an emphasis on team building between law enforcement and child welfare. Sound forensic interviews are essential for the successful completion of a child sexual abuse investigation. The purpose of conducting a forensic interview is to assess the child's safety and determine whether a crime has occurred. This 2½-day workshop will focus on the fundamental skills needed to conduct child interviews that are forensically appropriate.

The Wizard of Oz and Building Your Team

In this workshop, participants will explore the five stages of the group process, identify decision-making methods used in a group setting, and outline supervisory methods to build a team and promote positive team building skills.

Objectives

- Outline and explore the five stages of the group process and explore several illustrations of how a team's potential is greater than the sum of its parts
- Identify decision-making methods utilized in a group setting by understanding how various factors contribute to team success
- Outline supervisory methods to build a team and to promote positive team building skills by recognizing how roles and unique talents contribute to the success of a team/unit

From Blue to Black Youth with the Blues: Understanding and Managing Mood Disorders in Youth

Depression often leads to desperation. This training delves into the world of youth depression and suicide. It will look at common depression diagnosis as well as practical steps to help depressed youth. It will also look at the signs and symptoms of suicide and how to best approach a young person who may be thinking of suicide.

Objectives

- Identify the signs and symptoms of the different types of depression
- Describe ways of helping youth with depression symptoms
- Increase ability to understand youth depression

Safe and Supported: Empowerment Self Defense for Social Service Professionals

Every day, social service professionals face unsafe situations, which they endure for the sake of the vulnerable. To decrease the risk of serious harm while on the job (or in their personal lives), safety training is a must. But personal safety isn't only about physical self-defense. It starts with awareness of the environment and the people around us, an understanding of and respect for our own intuition, and the ability to set clear and effective boundaries and de-escalate tense encounters.

This course allows participants to learn and practice all these skills, in addition to simple escapes from grabs and holds, and basic strikes designed to allow escape. This is active training combining group activities and discussions, scenario-based skills practice, and physical technique practice.

Dress in comfortable clothing that allows for practice and movement.

Burnout, Secondary Trauma, and Self-Care

While burnout and secondary trauma are becoming more frequently discussed in the field of social services and exposure to trauma in helping work, symptoms of each often go unrecognized or mislabeled. This presentation seeks to provide an overview of the continuum of reactions experienced by helping professionals due to exposure to secondary and primary trauma in their work.

A range of self-care domains will be discussed. The facilitator will guide participants through several experiential activities including a chair yoga demonstration, breathing exercises, guided meditation, and the development of an individualized self-care plan using SMART goals and the latest research in behavior management.

Using Nemo and Pinocchio to Build Attachment During Visits

This workshop will present materials to assist participants in understanding the importance of promoting attachment during the visitation process. The workshop will outline the key factors and the theory of attachment. Different Hollywood films will be utilized to provide examples of appropriate and inappropriate attachment styles. The participants will learn different types of attachment styles. Participants will learn how to create appropriate action plans during the visit to help children develop healthy attachment styles.

Child Protection Worker Safety: Planning for Safe Home Visits

As a child protection worker, you face various safety issues when conducting home visits. This course identifies a number of these safety issues and precautions to consider when preparing for and conducting home visits. You will learn about behavior indicators and body language that may signal aggression, how to have safety-focused conversations with families about the secure storage of firearms and other weapons, and more. You will create a personal safety plan for preparing for and conducting home visits.

Objectives

- Identify essential safety precautions to consider when preparing for and conducting home visits
- Assess historical information about previous threats or assaults
- Recognize behavioral indicators and body language that may signal the potential for escalation
- Facilitate respectful, safety-focused conversations with families about the secure storage of firearms and other weapons in the home
- Develop a personal field safety plan

An Overview of Codependency: The Need to be Needed

Codependency is a term that was originally used to describe individuals in addictive relationships. However, codependency has expanded into a broader definition over the last several years and describes family patterns that are maladaptive. Often codependent characteristics have developed during childhood and lead individuals into very toxic relationships. Although codependency is not recognized as a mental or emotional disorder, codependent relationships can have significant negative effects in the lives of children and families.

Consequently, caregivers continue to explore avenues for working with codependent behaviors.

This workshop will illuminate the concept of codependency and address common symptoms and characteristics associated with the behavior. Moreover, specific strategies will be offered for working with individuals who have codependent behavior. In addition, evidence-based treatment strategies will be provided to assist caregivers and staff towards advocating for individuals and families.

Cannabis and Child Safety: The Law, the Science, and Why they Matter

This training is designed to help learners understand some of the complexities of where cannabis legalization currently stands in Ohio and the United States, and to help learners integrate this knowledge with their role as child welfare professionals, in order to assist with keeping children and their families safe and healthy.

Objectives

- Discuss the current legal landscape in Ohio and on a federal level related to cannabis use and the child welfare system, including variations between states.
- Recognize and describe the physical and psychological effects of cannabis use on children, adolescents and adults, as well as reviewing the most recent medical research on the topic.
- Explain ways to distinguish between responsible adult cannabis use and problematic use that may impact child safety.
- Develop and practice additional strategies to conduct thorough and unbiased assessments in cases where parental/kinship cannabis use is a factor.

Should I Be Concerned? What is Normal and What is Not

Kids can act so strangely - is it a phase or is it a sign that they need more help?

This workshop will help you understand what is going on with kids developmentally. And, if a child is going through more than just a phase, this workshop will provide insight into common mental health diagnosis and when to seek help.

Enhancing Visitation

This workshop will present materials to assist participants in understanding the importance of visitation. The workshop will outline the importance of a purposeful, planful visitation process as a component of the reunification process. Participants will learn the importance of the theoretical basis of visitation. Participants will learn how to creatively conduct visits and learn how to develop effective visitation plans to help parents learn new parenting and coping methods. This workshop is also designed for foster caregivers with the emphasis on working with the caseworker and parent as part of the team in the reunification process.

Objectives

- Identify separation and attachment issues in the visitation process
- Develop ways to help bridge the differences for a child during visitations
- Identify ways to help children express feelings appropriately before and after visits

Optimizing Health, Development, and Safety Outcomes for Substance Exposed Infants

Infants affected by prenatal substance exposure are among the most vulnerable victims of today's drug environment. In this training, learn about commonly used substances and how prenatal exposure impacts a child before and after birth. You will focus on understanding the complex medical and developmental needs of these infants and learn practical strategies to minimize the potential adverse effects of drug withdrawal, prematurity, sensory processing challenges, and nutritional or health risks. You'll also learn evidence-based soothing techniques, explore ways to promote developmental milestones, and strengthen your ability to advocate for infants' needs across systems. You'll develop skills to support your role as a foster parent providing day-to-day nurturing or as a caseworker promoting safety, permanency, and well-being.

Objectives

- Explain the impact of prenatal substance exposure on infant health and development, including risks such as Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome, prematurity, sensory processing challenges, and increased vulnerability to abuse or neglect.
- Recognize evidence-based strategies to support infants through withdrawal, irritability, and dysregulation while promoting medical stability and healthy development.
- Develop care approaches that foster resilience and well-being for infants affected by prenatal substance exposure.
- Collaborate with primary families, caseworkers, and community teams to strengthen advocacy efforts, guide case planning, and build safety nets during transitions.
- Identify self-care strategies to manage stress and sustain effectiveness as a caregiver or caseworker.

Families Navigating the Legal Status and Child Welfare Issues

Families who are navigating legal status constitute a large and growing portion of the national population, almost one-fourth of children and youth. Workshop participants will learn about the different legal statuses, potential barriers families may experience in the child welfare system, and additional legal protections.

Partnering with Schools: A Caregiver's Guide for Advocating for your Children

This interactive training will equip you with the knowledge and tools to be an effective, trauma-informed advocate in your child's education. You will explore how trauma impacts brain development and behavior, learn how to recognize the unique needs that trauma may create in each child, and develop personalized advocacy strategies. Through guided reflection and hands-on activities, you will create an individualized action plan to support your child's educational success.

This session empowers you to be positive, proactive partners in the school community.

Objectives

- Understand the effects of trauma on the child's developing brain
- Identify potential barriers created by the child's trauma history that impact their education, classroom experience, and learning environment
- Apply strategies for communication, collaboration, and advocacy as a member of the child's educational team

Fostering Healing, Resiliency, and Hope for Children who have Experienced Trauma

Join us in learning practical ways to bring hope, healing, and resiliency to children who have experienced trauma. By allowing you to experience how trauma affects the brain, development, and attachment, we will take the latest trauma research and turn it into interventions you can use every day in your caregiving or in working with caregivers. Through real-life examples and experiential learning, you will discover trauma-based strategies that will address the most challenging behaviors you face.

Exploring Personal Perspectives in Child Sexual Abuse Cases

In this course you will examine how your personal perspective may influence your work with child sexual abuse cases. You will also consider how stereotypes and assumptions can affect professional decision-making and responses when working with children and families. Be prepared to reflect on your own viewpoints and explore how to strengthen practice when addressing sensitive situations.

Stress and Coping Skills - Survival Skills for Child Welfare Workers

Change, uncertainty, and high expectations are part of today's child protection environment. Caseworkers and supervisors are often asked to do more with fewer resources while navigating shifting policies, increasing demands, and complex family needs. At the same time, personal stressors - like maintaining work-life balance, managing financial or family pressures, and adapting to broader social changes - can make the job even more challenging.

In this course, you'll explore how everyday stressors can affect your well-being and your work with families. You'll learn practical strategies to manage stress, prevent burnout, and reduce compassion fatigue - so you can stay focused, resilient, and effective in your role.

Objectives

- Identify sources of personal stress associated with child protection work
- Analyze emotional responses that occur across the four levels of stress
- Evaluate and apply coping strategies to effectively manage stress and maintain resilience

How Do I Talk to My Child About Adoption?

In this workshop, the techniques of Bibliotherapy, the use of reading specific books or literature, will be explained and demonstrated. These techniques will be explored as a method to help children transition from foster care to adoption.

Participants will learn about these tools and how they may help children understand the complexities of the adoption process and associated feelings.

Objectives

- Understand the history of Bibliotherapy and recognize how it can help children transition from foster care to adoption
- Gain an awareness of resources that could help children understand the adoption process
- Describe how to use adoption resources with children

Unintentional Ingestions of Marijuana Edibles and Exposure to other Illegal Substances by Children

This learning activity examines the epidemiology of unintentional ingestions, with a particular focus on the rising incidence of unintentional cannabis exposures.

Learners will explore key differences between fentanyl analogues and other opioids, including potency, risk profiles, and clinical implications. The course will also review currently available testing methods, highlighting their practical applications and limitations. Emphasis will be placed on prevention strategies and available resources to support patient education and risk reduction.

Learners will apply the knowledge gained through analysis of four case studies to reinforce understanding and support real-world decision-making.

Objectives

- Analyze epidemiology of unintentional ingestions
- Explore the rise in unintentional cannabis ingestions
- Explain differences in fentanyl analogues vs other opioids
- Review available testing and limitations
- Provide resources and prevention strategies
- Apply knowledge learned to four case studies

The DSM: The Evolution from Madness to the DSM-5 TR

This workshop will provide information to child protective services staff about the evolution of the Diagnostic Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM). A brief overview of previous DSM's manuals related to evolution and expansion of the classification system of mental illness and past methods of diagnosing and treatment will be presented. The recent changes from DSM-5 to DSM-5 TR will also be outlined.