<u>Executive Summary</u>
A DAY IN THE LIFE: PUTTING YOUR CORE SKILLS TO WORK

<u>Course Description</u>

This class is the final training in the CORE series and is designed to give participants the chance to practice the skills they learned over the past three months. Using case material workers will work through a mock referral/case from intake to a six-month review. Participants will complete assessments, develop case plans that work, select services related to objectives and make placements plans that are developmentally on target while minimizing trauma for children. The class will be totally experiential so that participants can practice what they have learned in a stimulating and non-threatening environment.

<u>Outcome Objectives</u>

1. Will have made a comprehensive assessment of the family.
2. Will have completed a Safety and Risk Assessment.
3. Will have interviewed a child using and demonstrating knowledge of child development, cultural considerations, and factors in maltreatment and interviewing.
4. Will have developed a realistic case plan that works within the clients culture, has smart objectives and services that are related to the objectives.
5. Will have developed a placement plan for a child that focuses on reducing trauma and that fits where the child is developmentally.

<u>Ways Supervisors Can Support the Transfer of Learning</u>

BEFORE the training:
1. Have the worker read an assessment that is well written. Focus on the parts that are well done and any agency preference.
2. Have the worker read a risk assessment. Discuss county policy about when risk assessments are done.
3. Ask the worker to review child development knowledge for a particular age range.
4. Have the worker observe an interview. Ask the worker to report back what techniques they observed.
5. Ask the worker to read a case plan is CMS.
6. Have the worker observe a child being placed. Process the placement reviewing agency policy and practice.
7. Ask the worker to review the classes they had in core and look for areas they would like to focus on in this class. Prepare a list to bring to class.

AFTER the training:
1. Ask the worker what they learned in the class and what parts were most important to their practice. Ask how they can incorporate what they learned in their future practice.
2. Have the worker complete an assessment of a family using the knowledge they gained in case planning, drugs and alcohol, factors in maltreatment and cultural considerations.
3. Have the worker complete a safety and risk assessment for a case. Review whether they used the variables in Risk Assessment or the definition in SDM.

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4. Utilizing child development, interviewing skills and cultural issues have the worker interview a child they know asking the child about a recent vacation.
5. Have the worker plan a placement for a child using knowledge of child development, trauma, and public policy.

Brief Outline

The class is a simulation of a case in child welfare. Participants will work in small groups. Each group will be assigned a case for which they will be responsible. They will move from station to station completing the tasks required in the case and using the information and skills taught in core. Stations will not only have the material and information they need but also guides to facilitate using the skills taught in core. To make the simulation more "real life" each group will be presented with distractions and issues that workers often face. Participants will practice the following skills:
- Interviewing a child
- Completing a comprehensive assessment
- Completing a risk assessment
- For SDM counties completing the priority response, safety and risk tools
- Complete a case plan that fits the clients' culture, is realistic, and has smart objectives and services that meet the objective.
- Develop a placement plan for a child that attends to recent policy (MEPA, ASFA) and the least traumatic for the child.

The focus of the day will be to review and refresh the participants' knowledge in a way that is non-threatening, experiential and fun.