

Executive Summary
**CAREGIVER SUBSTANCE ABUSE
AND CHILD WELFARE PRACTICE**

Course Description

Caregiver Substance Abuse and Child Welfare Practice provides the trainee with an overview of the dynamics involved in working with caregivers and youth who abuse substances and how these dynamics may impact child maltreatment. The training will highlight the most commonly abused substances in families who become involved with child welfare and the most common interventions. These interventions will include community based, culturally appropriate programs as well as the cycle of recovery families often experience. Trainees will have the opportunity to work with case scenarios to identify stages of recovery, common treatment plan interventions, and individual and systemic bias that can impact outcomes. The training will utilize lecturattes, small group discussions, and interactive transfer of learning exercises.

Target Audience

This training is designed to meet the needs of new workers who are beginning work with the child welfare system.

Outcome Objectives

1. Describe the relationship between substance abuse and child maltreatment, and the prevalence of substance abuse problems among caregivers of children in the child welfare system.
2. Identify common dynamics of substance abuse in families and its impact on child development and child safety.
3. Recognize the indicators of substance abuse and the intergenerational risk factors associated with substance abuse.
4. Describe the common continuum of alcohol and drug dependency, the addiction cycle, the recovery process, and the different levels of AOD treatment including AOD assessments.
5. Identify the signs and symptoms of the most commonly used drugs associated with substance abuse and abused by caregivers in child maltreatment situations.

Ways That Supervisors Can Support the Transfer of Learning

BEFORE the training, trainee supervisors/managers are asked to:

1. Review the County's policy on drug testing.
2. Identify the most prevalent drug being abused in the County or of interest to the worker.
3. Have worker review an AOD assessment and write down any questions they may have for the training.

AFTER the training, trainee supervisors/managers are asked to:

1. Have workers highlight what stood out to them and review the workbook
2. Use the concepts discussed and apply them to a client and determine a course of action.
3. Have the workers identify what programs are available in the area they serve and what assessment tools they use.