

Executive Summary **Domestic Violence**

Course Description

The Domestic Violence Training provides an overview of the dynamics involved in families suffering with domestic violence. The training focuses on recognizing and assessing the impact of domestic violence on children and families particularly with regards to safety, risk, and protective capacity. Additionally, the training highlights the legal strategies to be used in working with spousal/partner abuse. Finally, participants will learn key concepts related to interventions in working with families. The course utilizes lecture, case studies, small group interaction, and video demonstrations to help participants integrate the information.

Target Audience

This training is appropriate for new workers. New workers will be exposed to information to assist with beginning case work while recognizing signs and affects of domestic violence and building their awareness of possible case interventions.

Outcome Objectives

1. Recognize how spousal/partner abuse affects and is affected by each area of the child welfare process including screening, intake assessment, interrelatedness with types of abuse, ongoing child welfare services, family decision meetings, and visitation.
2. Recognize the combinations in which spousal/partner abuse exists outside of the context of male-on-female violence, such as same-sex partners, mutual combatants, and female-on-male violence and the interventions for families experiencing spousal/partner abuse in the context of child welfare practice as well as the interactions between culture, poverty, gender, immigration status, and substance abuse in the dynamics of spousal/partner abuse.
3. Explain how exposure to spousal/partner abuse typically affects children and adolescents.
4. Recognize resources and services that effectively assist families that experience spousal/partner abuse, including sample interview questions, possible criminal sanctions against the perpetrator, protection orders, support services, batterer interventions, and on-line resources while recognizing evidence-based and promising practices that are effective in working with families exposed to spousal/partner abuse.
5. Using a case example, analyze and articulate factors relevant to an accurate assessment of risk in families where there is spousal/partner abuse and present strength-based interventions that protect children, adolescents and parents.

Ways that Supervisors can support the Transfer of Learning from the classroom to the job...

BEFORE the training

1. Supervisors should ask the worker to consider what constitutes domestic violence and spousal/partner abuse. What has been the accepted response in the trainee's culture to this definition?
2. Supervisors should ask the trainee consider how the training defines domestic violence and who is impacted by DV in a community.

AFTER the training

1. Supervisors should ask the trainee to list domestic violence resources and ways to access the resources in the county/community.

2. Supervisors should ask the trainee to name risk factors for children in homes of domestic violence and suggest ways to engage victims of violence.