

Executive Summary

Course Title: *Looking Beyond What You See: Engaging the Client with Challenging Behavior*

Outline of Training:

This six-hour course will be an interactive and didactic presentation on dealing with clients in the child welfare system that display challenging behavior. The training will utilize a didactic, PowerPoint format presentation; integrate short video clips, small and large group discussion as well as individual and small group exercises.

Agenda for the day:

- 1. Review of the cognitive, emotional and behavioral symptoms associated with challenging behavior*
- 2. Identify client, parent, family and developmental factors associated with the development and sustaining of these challenging behaviors*
- 3. Review integration of this knowledge into development of modified and multi-disciplinary case / treatment plans*

The training will review relevant research, evidenced based practices, DSM-IV diagnostic criteria and theoretical principles to assist the participants to improve their ability to identify, work with and secure services for youth and adults with challenging behavior.

Handouts will be given to participants for their use in class as well as afterward to strengthen the transfer of learning. The handouts include sample case plans, case examples and a reference list.

Target Audience: *New and veteran staff from child welfare and affiliated mental health providers. Appropriate for line staff and supervisors for all case carrying assignments.*

Outcome Objectives for Participants:

- Participants will increase their knowledge, awareness and understanding of clients with challenging behavior*
- Participants will improve their personal and professional skills related to working with clients that display challenging behaviors*
- Increase their knowledge and understanding of the DSM IV-TR as it relates to challenging behavior*
- Identify the connections between cognitive, emotional and behavioral symptoms associated with the various forms of challenging behavior*
- Review relevant research and evidence based practices related to the working with a treatment of clients with challenging behavior*
- Practice new approaches to be taken by the child welfare, mental health staff, caregivers and community members involved with youth and adults that display challenging behavior*

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

BEFORE the training, *the supervisor can meet with their staff member to review the executive summary with staff member, identify an objective to focus on with the staff member, identify at least 2 clients that are particularly challenging for their staff member to effectively work with and alert participant that they will present an overview of training to unit.*

AFTER the training, *the supervisor can meet with the participant and ask to review the case plan worksheets, identify at least one case in which concepts from the training can be applied and discuss further training that could support this training for their staff member and for the unit.*