

## **Executive Summary**

**Course Title:** The Dance of Attachment

### **Outline of Training:**

Working and living with children and youth who have issues of attachment can be challenging. These children and youth require not only the dedication and commitment of their caregivers, but also knowledge and skills to be effective in helping the healing process. As the issues of attachment have risen to the awareness of the medical and mental health communities, so have we in the field of child welfare, come to an understanding that we must enhance our abilities to provide the structure and nurturing that these children require to be emotionally and physically successful.

This training provides an overview of attachment, information on resulting effects of trauma on children and youth, as well as behavioral and structural interventions to help families and providers move in a positive direction.

Social workers will explore and engage in experiential activities that will enhance their process of empathic response and will enhance their abilities to effectively address issues associated with attachment. This training will use didactic lecture, interactive exercises, and skill building activities to explore these critical issues. A power point presentation will provide the visual background. Video clips will be used to enhance visual learning. Informational handouts will be available to each participant.

**Target Audience:** New and experienced line staff and supervisors

### **Outcome Objectives for Participants:**

As a result of this training, participants will be able to;

Identify behaviors associated with issues of attachment difficulties.

Explain the impact of trauma on attachment and child development.

Employ strategies to encourage attachment and decrease reactivity.

Understand the importance of attunement parenting and how to communicate this with families.

Demonstrate utilization of effective intervention strategies with children, youth and families.

The supervisor will meet with the participant to review the executive summary and learning objectives. The trainee will identify a learning objective of interest and will prepare a list of questions for the trainer. The staff person will provide a brief summary of the training to identified employee.

The supervisor will meet with the participant following the training to review the list of questions generated by the employee and answers provided during the training. The supervisor will ask the staff person identify additional training information necessary in promoting competence in this topic area.