

Executive Summary

Course Title: Understanding the Child Welfare System

Outline of Training:

This training will provide an overview of the Child Welfare System; its history, its organization, and its operation. Participants will explore the major laws, policies, and practices that impact child welfare services. This training will highlight child welfare statistics and examples of strengths-based practice toward addressing issues of disproportionality and fairness and equity with cultural competence. A PowerPoint presentation with handouts will support lecture, discussion, and group activities.

Target Audience:

New child welfare workers, line staff, supervisors, support staff, and other service providers will benefit from this training.

Outcome Objectives for Participants:

- Identify and describe the organizational structure of the child welfare system
- Recognize and understand the major child welfare laws, policies, and practices
- Develop basic knowledge of the kinds and causes of abuse and neglect addressed
- Become aware of disproportionality, fairness and equity, and cultural competence

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

BEFORE the training

Review the executive summary with staff, highlight specific learning objectives, encourage participants to bring specific questions, and alert participants that they will present an overview of the training to other staff members.

AFTER the training

Ask participants to present an overview of the training to other staff members, identify how their role and function fit into the system, and facilitate attendance at advanced trainings that will expand on and apply the introductory material.

Outline of Training

I. Introduction

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| A. Agenda | 9:00-9:05 |
| B. Training Rules | 9:05-9:10 |
| C. Class Objectives | 9:10-9:15 |
| D. Introductions | 9:15-9:20 |
| E. Overview | 9:20-9:30 |
| 1. History of the Child Welfare System | |
| 2. TOL Exercise: Place events on a timeline | |

II. Organization of the Child Welfare System	Figure 1	9:30-10:15
A. Federal agencies, laws, and funding		
B. State agencies, laws, and roles		
C. County agencies, roles, and responsibilities	Figure 3	
1. Four service components		
2. The major players		
3. TOL Exercise: Find yourself on the flowchart		
 BREAK		10:15-10:30
 III. Child Welfare Services		10:30-11:15
A. Kinds and causes of abuse and neglect		
B. Intervention, services, and outcomes		
C. Fairness and equity		
1. Disproportionality		
2. Strengths-based practices		
3. Cultural competence		
4. TOL Exercise: Quiz		
 IV. Conclusion		11:15-12:00
A. Summary		
B. Review		
C. Parking Lot		
D. TOL Exercise: Taking it Home		
E. Evaluation		