

## **Executive Summary**

**Course Title:**           **HEALTH CARE NEEDS OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH  
IN THE CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM**

### **Outline of Training:**

Trainees will understand the complexities of health care issues and concerns for children and youth in the child welfare system, which include preventative healthcare, common health care problems, and timely referrals. Trainees will understand the statewide health care resources and how to access them for children and youth in the child welfare system. Trainees will work with case examples in small group activities to develop a foundational knowledge of foster care health needs.

### **Target Audience:**

New Child Welfare workers as part of the California Common Core Curricula for Child Welfare Workers

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

- K1. Trainees will be able to recognize the need for and their role in preventive health care, including periodicity of medical and dental exams, immunization schedules, and early intervention programs.
- K2. Trainees will be able to identify common health care issues of children and youth involved in the child welfare system.
- K3. Trainees will be able to identify resources available to promote health and wellness for children and youth involved in the child welfare system.
- K4. Trainees will be able to explain the role of care providers and foster care public health nurses in the prevention, care, treatment, advocacy, and follow-up of health care needs for children and youth in their care.
- K5. Trainees will verbalize an understanding of the purpose and duties involved in developing and maintaining the Health Passport.
- K6. Trainees will explore a holistic approach to health care and understand the connection between mind, body, and spirit, and the ways this approach can promote children's well-being.

- K7. Trainees will be able to recognize racial and ethnic disparities in health and access to health care, and how such disparities parallel fairness and equity issues in the child welfare system.

Values:

- V1. Trainees will value that overall health and wellness involves the care of the mind, body, and spirit, and includes the integration of a family's cultural practices.
- V2. Trainees will value working in partnership with Foster Care Public Health Nurses and other health care providers to promote well-being for children and youth

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

**BEFORE the training**

1. Review job duties as related to the task of monitoring and supervising the health care needs of youth in foster care.
2. Find and read the county protocols for children with special health needs.
3. Identify two or three cases from case load that need particular attention to health supervision. Have new child welfare worker begin to formulate a care plan for health needs and identify gaps in knowledge.

**AFTER the training**

1. Worker should meet with PHN's to hear first hand about the role of the PHN in their county and make a plan for how to work together effectively.
2. Use the same two or three cases identified before the training that need particular attention to health supervision. Review the cases with a PHN and discuss appropriate medical referrals and follow up including the role of the PHN and the role of the worker.