

**Executive Summary**  
**Strengths Based Practice – Linkages**

**Course Description** As our environment get more challenging, and funding less available, it becomes even more important that we serve our community's children and families with the best resources and practice that provides an excellent chance for positive behavior change and family capacity building. Many child welfare families have eligibility and/CalWorks social workers and receive services from those programs. Teaming together families can receive a coordinated case plan that includes preventative services unavailable from Child Protective Services and services from Child Protection that are unavailable in eligibility. This class will explore the foundational principles of strengths based practice in working with families. It will develop skill in engagement techniques that move families toward positive change. It will practice effective teaming between child welfare and eligibility social workers.

This ½ day course will utilize lecture, practice, small group interaction, and case scenarios to help participants build skill and integrate the information.

***This workshop is designed for child welfare and eligibility social workers who work with challenging youth and their families. As a result of this training, participants will:***

- understand the core components of strengths based practice;
- understand the stages of the change process;
- explore exercises to increase connection to parents and move them toward change;
- explore exercises to “roll with resistance.”
- learn to employ strategies for effective interagency teaming to provide excellent client service.

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

***BEFORE the training***

1. Supervisors should ask the trainee to bring questions that they have about what to do in their practice when parents seem resistant or “stuck” in their behaviors.
2. Supervisors should ask the trainee to come prepared with an open mind for trying new ways of practice and teaming.
3. Supervisors should communicate their expectations for workers regarding learning and how it might be integrated into their practice after the training.

***AFTER the training***

1. Supervisors should ask the trainee to identify the skills learned in class.
2. Supervisors should ask the trainee to practice a skill within 24 hours of training to support transfer of skill and learning.