

## Executive Summary

**Course Title:** *Through the Looking Glass: Adapting Child Welfare Practice to Meet the Needs of Parents with Disabilities and Their Families*

### **Outline of Training:**

Participants will be informed about adapting practice to the needs of parents with diverse disabilities and their children. Clinical vignettes and videotaped interaction will be included to illustrate concepts. All participants will receive a Parenting with a Disability Notebook which will include handouts, community/internet resources, terminology and guidelines for practice. The following topics will be addressed:

- The legal basis for adapting child welfare practice to accommodate the needs of parents with disabilities and their families
- Becoming familiar with appropriate parenting by individuals with disabilities
- Adaptation of parents with disabilities and their children without services
- Effective services to support families or ameliorate problems
- The use of adaptations and accommodations throughout practice
- Assessing safety issues
- Evaluating parent capability
- Developing appropriate plans
- Implications of legal issues when practicing with parents with disabilities in the dependency system

**Target Audience:** The training will be targeted to child welfare workers and supervisors interested in learning more about working with Parents with a Disability and Deaf Parents within the Child Welfare System.

### **As a result of this training, participants will:**

1. Demonstrate their understanding of the unique challenges in working with this population by developing case plans and service delivery that address the disability from the onset.
2. Identify Federal and California laws impacting these cases
3. Use new guidelines for improving practice in evaluation of parents with intellectual or physical disabilities
4. Identify disability and make appropriate accommodations for parent and/or family to best meet the goals of the case.

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

#### **BEFORE the training**

*Review the executive summary with staff member; identify an objective to focus on with the staff member, alert participant that they will present an overview of training to their unit.*

#### **AFTER the training**

*Have participant identify a case in which concepts from the training can be applied.*

*Identify further training needs for the supervisee.*

*Review training information for congruence with agency expectations.*