Family-Centered Approach to Child Protective Services

Agenda and Objectives

Section I: Introductions and Orientation

- Welcome
- Overview of Caseworker Core Curricula
- Introductions and “What’s In It For Me?” Activity

Objectives:

- Trainees will be introduced to one another and the trainer.
- Trainees will become familiar with the eight workshops that comprise the Caseworker Core.
- Trainees will identify learning needs they hope to have addressed during this module.

Section II: The Historical and Philosophical Basis for Child Welfare

- Values Clarification
- The Evolution of Society’s Values and Responses to Maltreatment of Children
- The Unique Role of Child Protective Services
- Differentiating Abuse and Neglect from Less-than-Optimal Parenting
- Contemporary American Law Regarding Maltreated Children
- Accountability

Objectives:

- Trainees will be aware of the history and evolution of child welfare services and the philosophical and legal basis for child protection.
- Trainees will understand the values conflicts inherent in the practice of child welfare.
- Trainees will be aware of their own values and how these can influence their perceptions and decisions.
- Trainees will understand the importance of informed judgment in child welfare practice.
- Trainees will be familiar with the legal statutes that regulate child welfare practice in Kansas.
- Trainees will be aware of the unique role of child protective services agencies in serving maltreated children and their families.
Section III: Family-Centered Practice

- Parent’s Rights and Children’s Rights
- Family-Centered Practice

Objectives:
- Trainees will understand the philosophy and guiding principles of family-centered practice.
- Trainees will understand how family-centered child protective services integrates child protection with protecting parents’ rights.

Section IV: Developing Knowledge about Culture and Cultural Diversity

- Introduction to Issues of Culture
- Becoming Aware of Your Own Culture
- Common Errors in Assessing Culture

Objectives:
- Trainees will understand the concept of cultural competence and will recognize the cultural diversity of clients who are served in the child welfare system.
- Trainees will be able to describe some of the basic values, beliefs and attitudes of their own culture.
- Trainees will know how their own cultural background can affect their ability to communicate with and understand people from different cultural backgrounds.

Section V: The Identification and Assessment of Physical Abuse and Neglect

- Physical and Behavioral Indicators of Child Abuse and Neglect
- Family Dynamics in Physical Abuse and Neglect

Objectives:
- Trainees will recognize physical and behavioral indicators of child physical abuse, sexual abuse and neglect.
- Trainees will understand the contributing dynamics to child maltreatment in families.

Section VI: Sexual Abuse

- Introduction to Sexual Abuse
- Definitions
- Physical, Behavioral and Emotional Indicators of Child Sexual Abuse
- Dynamics of Sexual Abuse
Objectives:

- Trainees will know the range of behaviors considered child sexual abuse.
- Trainees will know the physical, behavioral and emotional indicators of child sexual abuse.
- Trainees will be familiar with common dynamics of child sexual abuse.

Section VII: Closure

Objective:

- Trainees will identify a case from their own caseload to review and apply knowledge gained from the module.