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Foster, Adoptive, Kinship, and Birth Parent Training in 2020



In an exciting venture with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, the MSU School of Social Work is pleased to present opportunities for training specific to all caregivers engaged with the Michigan child welfare system.

If you are a foster parent, adoptive parent, kinship/relative parent, or birth parent, these **FREE trainings** are customized to help support your needs in raising the children in your home, understanding some of the unique and sometimes challenging needs that children and their families often face in the child welfare system.

Following licensure, caregivers are required to earn six hours of training annually. These trainings can count toward those hours.

Find all program details on our website: socialwork.msu.edu/ce.

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This training is intended for adults. Some content is not appropriate for children.



Sessions I & II: Caring for Children Who Have Experienced Trauma & Caring for Yourself

Dates/time: **Session I: #233-20 Wednesday, October 21, 2020** • Program 12:00 PM – 1:15 PM
Session II: #234-20 Friday, November 13, 2020 • Program 12:00 PM – 1:15 PM

Location: WEBINAR

Presenter: **Nola Carew, PhD, LMSW**
Assistant Professor of Social Work, Program Director, Cornerstone University
Clinical Instructor, Michigan State University

Training objectives: As a result of this training, participants will be prepared to:

- Session I: Participants will develop knowledge of trauma's impact on the developing child .
- Session I: Participants will be able to identify elements of trauma-informed parenting skills.
- Session II: Participants will develop knowledge of personal impacts of parenting children who have experienced trauma.
- Session II: Participants will be able to evaluate the efficacy of tools and resources to manage the personal impacts of caring for traumatized children.

Intermediate skill level

Target audience:

- ✓ **Foster Parents**
- ✓ **Adoptive Parents**
- ✓ **Kinship Parents**
- ✓ **Birth Parents**

Description: This training will provide participants with a foundational understanding of trauma's pervasive impact on the developing child as well as offer parenting skill tips grounded in our understanding of the neuropsychological impacts of trauma. Participants will develop a trauma-informed parenting lens as they learn trauma-sensitive approaches to difficult behaviors. The follow-up session will focus specifically on caregivers and the personal impacts of caring for children who have experienced trauma. In this session, participants will identify their own personal needs as they care for traumatized children and have an opportunity to develop their own care plan to address the challenges of their role.

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Sessions I & II: Building Your Village: The Importance of Foster Parent Support

Dates/time: **Session I: #203-21 Tuesday, February 9, 2021** • Program 12:00 PM – 1:15 PM

Session II: #204-21 Tuesday, March 9, 2021 • Program 12:00 PM – 1:15 PM

Location: WEBINAR

Presenter: **Liz Sharda, PhD, LMSW**, has been a licensed foster parent since 2008, and together with her husband has fostered children from age 1-1/2 to 18. She has also worked in the child welfare field in a variety of roles, including foster care, residential treatment, and staff and parent training. She is currently an assistant professor of social work at Hope College in Holland, MI. Sharda recently completed her PhD from Michigan State University's School of Social Work, where her dissertation research focused on stress, well-being, retention, and social support among licensed foster parents.

Training objectives: As a result of this training, participants will be prepared to:

- Session I: Name at least three common stressors of foster parenting.
- Session I: Identify the role of social support in promoting foster parent resilience.
- Session II: Name four types of social support.
- Session II: Identify at least one source (or potential source) for each type of support in their own lives.

Beginner and intermediate skill level

Target audience:

- ✓ Foster Parents
- ✓ Adoptive Parents
- ✓ Kinship Parents
- ✓ Birth Parents

Description: Foster parents have one of the most stressful roles in the child welfare system. Though we know this to be true, we don't often talk about what promotes foster parent resilience within their challenging role. This two-part webinar will focus on the role of social support in reducing the impact of stress on foster parents. The first session will include information on common sources of stress in fostering, and the role of social support in promoting foster parent resilience. We will discuss the various types of social support and how they each meet unique support needs for foster parents. The second session will focus on application of ideas learned in the first session. Participants will complete a guided self-assessment of their own support networks, which will include examples of each type of support and space to consider how each is fulfilled (or lacking) in their own lives. Participants will complete the two-part series with increased understanding of social support as a key component of fostering, and increased awareness of their own support systems' strengths and gaps.

How to register for trainings

Webinar training: Visit socialwork.msu.edu/ceu/catalog.php
Under Topics of Interest, click "Webinars" or search course number.

To ensure the best possible experience, we encourage you to review system requirements available at support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362023-System-Requirements-for-PC-and-Mac. It is recommended that you are hard wired to an Internet connection for the best connection. If you would like to view the webinar on a mobile device, download the free Zoom App.

For information regarding policies and procedures, visit socialwork.msu.edu/ceu/faq.php

If questions, contact: MSU School of Social Work Continuing Education office: 517-353-3060, swkce@msu.edu