



Office of Workforce Development & Training

2026 In Service Training Catalog

OWDT 2026 In Service Training

OWDT will provide in-service training sessions for all child welfare (state & private) and Centralized Intake staff during the 2026 calendar year. Listed below are the In-service training topics and dates for the 2026 calendar year. OWDT will provide all training courses in a virtual format via Microsoft Teams.

Registration for all training topics: Learning Management System:
<https://michigan.csod.com/client/michigan/default.aspx>

Foster Care Specific Training Topics

Program Specific Refresher for Foster Care

This course will provide updates on Foster Care along with refresher training on required case management items such as standard of promptness, petition writing, policy definitions, report timelines, etc.

Training Dates:

June 23, 2026
9:00am-12:00pm
1:00pm-4:00pm

June 25, 2026
9:00am-12:00pm
1:00pm-4:00pm

March 25, 2026
9:00am-12:00pm
1:00pm-4:00pm

August 31, 2026
9:00am-12:00pm
1:00pm-4:00pm

Learning Lab: MISACWIS Provider Management

This training will assist with: Identifying and recognizing Provider Categories. Participants will Learn about Provider Inquiry types and when to use them, also understand the inquiry process. Participant will review and understand a Provider record and Create a Provider Inquiry and Provider Home Evaluation record in the MiSACWIS Training Sandbox.

Training Dates:

June 11, 2026
9:00am-12:00pm
1:00pm-4:00pm

Learning Lab: Effective Home Visits in Child Welfare

This course is intended for Services Specialists and support staff who conduct home visits to verify the well-being of children. All programs' are invited to attend: CPS, Foster Care, Adoption, Family Preservation, FTS, FRS.

Training Dates:

March 4, 2026

9:00am-12:00pm

1:00pm-4:00pm

November 4, 2026

9:00am-12:00pm

1:00pm-4:00pm

Learning Lab: FC Report Writing

This learning lab is designed to teach you about report writing for FC. Job performance enhancement skills (e.g., writing, basic computer skills, time management).

Training Dates:

March 26, 2026.

9:00am-12:00pm

1:00pm-4:00pm

June 8, 2026.

9:00am-12:00pm

1:00pm-4:00pm

Genogram

The purpose of this training is to provide a high-level overview of what a genogram is, policy requirements for creating/updating a genogram, to gain insight about the relationships, behaviors, and patterns within a family unit and learn to effectively gather/interpret family history. Genograms are a tool used to build rapport and understand how cultural, social, and historical factors influence family structures.

Training Dates:

April 27, 2026.

9:00am-12:00pm

1:00pm-4:00pm

September 30, 2026.

9:00am-12:00pm

1:00pm-4:00pm

CPS Specific Training Topics

CPS History and Trends

This training builds critical thinking skills by examining the history and trends of child welfare practice in alignment with PSM 713-01. Participants will learn to analyze systemic impacts, engage families in informed conversations, and apply historical insights to assessment and case planning decisions.

Training Dates:

June 3, 2026.

9:00am-12:00pm

1:00pm-4:00pm

September 21, 2026.

9:00am-12:00pm

1:00pm-4:00pm

Program Specific Refresher for CPS

This course will provide updates on CPS along with refresher training on required case management items such as standard of promptness, petition writing, policy definitions, report timelines, etc.

Training Dates:

August 26, 2026.

9:00am-4:00pm

August 27, 2026.

9:00am-4:00pm

Learning Lab: CPS Report Writing

This learning lab is designed to teach you about report writing for CPS. Job performance enhancement skills (e.g., writing, basic computer skills, time management

Training Dates:

April 9, 2026.

9:00am-12:00pm

1:00pm-4:00pm

August 24, 2026.

9:00am-12:00pm

1:00pm-4:00pm

CPS Safety, Risk, FANS, CANS Assessment

OWDT 2026 In Service Training

This course will provide refresher training on the completion of the Safety, Risk, Fans and CANS assessments for CPS.

Training Dates:

March 23, 2026.

9:00am-12:00pm

1:00pm-4:00pm

August 26, 2026.

9:00am-12:00pm

1:00pm-4:00pm

Adoption Specific Training Topics

Learning Lab: Adoptive Family Assessment

The adoptive family assessment is designed to better understand prospective adoptive families while also offering guidance Michigan adoption professionals in making appropriate family–child matches and applying for consent.

Training Dates:

June 17, 2026

9:00am-12:00pm

1:00pm-4:00pm

Learning Lab: Child Adoption Assessment

The Child Adoption Assessment is intended to provide an accurate and full description of the child, including the child’s special needs and history. This Learning Lab encourages specialists to include information that will be beneficial to the prospective adoptive parents and the adult adoptee.

Training Dates:

July 15, 2026

9:00am-12:00pm

1:00pm-4:00pm

Planning and Managing for an Adoption Disruption

As a result of this training, Adoption Specialist will have a understanding of Preparing Children and Families for Adoption, Disruption & Dissolution Tracking, & Post Adoption Services.

Training Dates:

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March 5, 2026.
9:00am-12:00pm
1:00pm-4:00pm

June 8, 2026.
9:00am-12:00pm
1:00pm-4:00pm

Learning Lab: Consent and Subsidy

This learning lab is designed to give participants understanding of MDHHS adoption policy related to the Adoption Assistance (subsidy) and Michigan Children's Institute (MCI) consent. Time will be spent reviewing proper completion of DHHS forms for each process.

Training Dates:

February 11, 2026
9:00am-12:00pm
1:00pm-4:00pm

Learning Lab: Adoption Information Sharing - Training will identify legal requirements for sharing information with adoptive families. Training will review what information/records adoptive families are permitted to have when adopting a child from the foster care system. Training will identify best practice guidelines and SOP for sharing information with adoptive families.

Training Dates:

April 22, 2026
9:00am-12:00pm
1:00pm-4:00pm

General Child Welfare Training Topics

Learning Lab: Customer Service in CW

This course is for Child welfare specialists working with families in CPS, FC, & Adoption. This course will provide the framework and guidelines for engaging our customers in Child Welfare.

Training Dates:

February 19, 2026
9:00am-12:00pm

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1:00pm-4:00pm

ICWA Refresher

This ½ day training will educate CPS, Foster Care, and Adoption workers on MDHHS policy regarding the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) as well as the Michigan Indian Family Preservation Act (MIFPA) and how the two laws work together to help preserve Native American children and families.

Training Dates:

June 15, 2026

9:00am-12:00pm

1:00pm-4:00pm

July 7, 2026

9:00am-12:00pm

1:00pm-4:00pm

Safety Planning-BSC In Service

Thorough and inclusive safety assessment and planning increases immediate child safety, assists in better placement decisions and can enhance worker relationships with families, courts and other community partners. Enhance understanding of safety assessment and planning, as well as threatened harm policy and practice. Provide frontline staff the opportunity to identify obstacles to the application of these policies and practices.

Training Dates:

April 22, 2026

9:00am-12:00pm

1:00pm-4:00pm

May 26, 2026

9:00am-12:00pm

1:00pm-4:00pm

Learning Lab- How to Stay Organized

This learning lab is designed to provide hands-on techniques to stay organized to improve productivity and SOP's.

Training Dates:

April 28, 2026

9:00am-12:00pm

1:00pm-4:00pm

MISACWIS Social Work Contacts

This training is for the CPS & Foster Care Specialist working with families. This course will cover topics on policy as it relates to documenting social work contacts for parenting time and entering parenting visit exceptions.

Training Dates:

September 22, 2026

9:00am-12:00pm

1:00pm-4:00pm

Verbal De-escalation

This training is an interactive three-hour training focused on practical strategies in diffusing hostile and aggressive client behaviors.

Training Dates:

March 4, 2026

9:00am-12:00pm

July 1, 2026

9:00am-12:00pm

October 7, 2026

1:00pm-4:00pm

Critical thinking

During this session, participants will learn how to define critical thinking, recognize the characteristics of critical thinkers, identifying barriers to Critical Thinking in Child Welfare, gain knowledge of the critical thinking skills utilized in child welfare, describe how critical thinking skills are applied in child welfare to gather, analyze and evaluate information, and gain knowledge to improve the use of the structured decision making tools and improve the outcomes for children and families.

Training Dates:

February 24, 2026

9:00am-12:00pm

1:00pm-4:00pm

August 28, 2026

9:00am-12:00pm

1:00pm-4:00pm

Trauma Checklist

Trauma screening is a foundational part of the State of Michigan becoming trauma informed. The vast majority of children and families involved in child welfare have been impacted by the cycle of trauma. Screening helps us identify each child (in ongoing CPS or foster care), what trauma they have been exposed to, and how trauma is impacting the children and family. The trauma screen interview is completed within the first 30 days of opening an ongoing CPS or foster care case and sets the tone for trauma informed practice throughout case planning and development. Using the screen gives us the best opportunity to engage parents and children, increase awareness of trauma, provide effective support and interventions, and increase resilience and healing for families.

Training Dates:

October 15, 2026

9:00am-12:00pm

1:00pm-4:00pm

March 4, 2026

9:00am-12:00pm

1:00pm-4:00pm

Mentor Training for CPS and Foster Care Workers - Mentor Training will review the requirements and best practices for staff who have been assigned as mentors for new hires. Basic expectations will be discussed along with support that is available to mentors. This training can be applicable to both mentors and supervision.

Training Dates:

September 29, 2026

9:00am-12:00pm

1:00pm-4:00pm

Juvenile Justice Training Topics

Dual Wards

The various interactions of crossover youth, including dual wards, will be addressed during this course. MDHHS responsibilities for both the Juvenile Justice and Foster Care programs will be reviewed, including a comparison of duties required for each of the program types. Topics of focus in this field include legal status, visit requirements, Placement Exception Requests, court orders, and policy requirements.

Training Dates:

October 7, 2026
9:00am-12:00pm
1:00pm-4:00pm

Family Preservation Training Topics

Trauma Checklist Family Preservation

Trauma screening is a foundational part of the State of Michigan becoming trauma informed. The vast majority of children and families involved in child welfare have been impacted by the cycle of trauma. Screening helps us identify each child (in ongoing CPS or foster care), what trauma they have been exposed to, and how trauma is impacting the children and family. The trauma screen interview is completed within the first 30 days of opening an ongoing CPS or foster care case and sets the tone for trauma informed practice throughout case planning and development. Using the screen gives us the best opportunity to engage parents and children, increase awareness of trauma, provide effective support and interventions, and increase resilience and healing for families.

Trauma Checklist (Family Preservation only)

November 3, 2026
9:00am-12:00pm
1:00pm-4:00pm

Trauma Checklist (Family Preservation only)

April 7, 2026
9:00am-12:00pm
1:00pm-4:00pm

Trauma Checklist (Family Preservation only)

June 23, 2026
9:00am-12:00pm
1:00pm-4:00pm

FIRP Case Note Review

This half-day review of writing Family Preservation FIRP format Case Notes, is strongly recommended for Family Preservation staff after two years or more of casework experience or for any staff who needs support with this skill. Reviews the solution focus strength-based model, how to capture Protective Factors and allows for open discussion of successes and challenges in the use of this skill.

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Training Dates:

September 3, 2026

9:00am-12:00pm

1:00pm-4:00pm

Family Preservation Skills Revisit ½ Day

This half-day, condensed refresher revisits core Family Preservation skills for experienced staff, reinforcing solution-focused and strength-based practice in casework. Designed for workers with two or more years of field experience, the training provides targeted review, guided reflection, and peer discussion focused on applying key strategies, sharing practice successes, and navigating ongoing challenges in community-based Family Preservation work.

Training Dates:

December 15, 2026.

9:00am-12:00pm

1:00pm-4:00pm