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Foster, Adoptive, Kinship, and Birth Parent Training in 2024



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.

How to register for trainings

Webinar training: <https://www.eventbrite.com/o/msu-school-of-social-work-44929438833>

If questions, contact: Gina Tremonti Gembel, MSW, at the MSU School of Social Work Continuing Education office
swkce@msu.edu, 517-353-3060

DELIVERED BY



School of Social Work



Foster, Adoptive, Kinship, and Birth Parent Training

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

Triple Threat: Teenagers, Talking, and Trauma: Part 2

Date/time: Friday, February 2, 2024 • Program 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM (ET)
Location: ONE-HOUR WEBINAR
Presenter: Stacey Goodson, MS
 Foster Parent, Trainer, Consultant



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

- Describe the definition of trauma and the four types of trauma.
- Distinguish between “normal” teenager behaviors and behaviors that are likely a result of experiencing trauma.
- Demonstrate tangible behavior management methods that work for youth that have experienced trauma.

Beginner skill level

Target audience:

- ✓ Foster Parents
- ✓ Adoptive Parents

Description: This engaging webinar will allow participants the opportunity to understand the definition of trauma as well as have an understanding of the differences between “normal” teenager behaviors and behaviors that are a result of experiencing trauma. In addition, behavior management methods and ways to connect with teenagers will be explored. This webinar is an opportunity for anyone living with teens, working with them, or supporting them to have a better understanding of how their brains work and ways to strengthen the relationship. This webinar will utilize exercises, large group discussion, and visual displays.

Big Behaviors and Trauma: Similarities, Differences and Strategies for Working with Traumatized Youth

Date/time: Friday, February 16, 2024 • Program 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM (ET)
Location: ONE-HOUR WEBINAR
Presenter: Kelley Blanck, LMSW
 Instructor, MSU School of Social Work



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

- Define the different types of trauma.
- List the similarities and differences between typical developmental behavior and trauma symptoms.
- Describe strategies for coaching parents of children with big behavior.
- Identify tips and resources for children with trauma exposure.

Beginner skill level

Target audience:

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

Description: Trauma affects how children view and cope with life. These children often behave in ways that seem random, unpredictable, withdrawn, and extreme, struggling with impulse control and being able to think through consequences (NCTSN, 2017). Many of these children come from underserved/underrepresented populations and communities (AFCARS 2022). Research and practice are now opening our eyes to the significant relationship between behavior and trauma exposure. In this webinar, you will learn about common similarities and differences between typical developmental behaviors and trauma behavior, as well as the interrelatedness of each. You will receive strategies for working with youth who are exhibiting big behavior due to trauma exposure. In addition, you will receive tips and resources for further education and tools available to families. This webinar will utilize exercises and visual displays.



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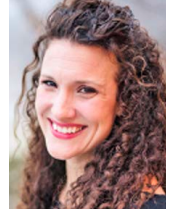
This training is intended for adults. Some content is not appropriate for children.

Making Connections with Your Traumatized Child

Date/time: **Tuesday, March 12, 2024** • Program 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM (ET)

Location: **TWO-HOUR WEBINAR**

Presenter: **Lauren Peabody, LMSW**
 Founder of Nurture Family Center



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

- Identify the impact of attachment trauma on the brain.
- Describe two methods to help calm your child's brain.
- Develop strategies to heal with attunement, nurturing messages, touch and play.

Beginner skill level

Target audience:

- ✓ Foster Parents
- ✓ Adoptive Parents

Description: In this webinar, caregivers will learn the basics of attachment trauma and its impact on brain development. We will explore the most common symptoms of attachment trauma and how they manifest behaviorally in ways that can be very triggering and scary for caregivers. Caregivers will learn why and how attachment trauma influences every moment of a child's life including their decisions and reactions. We will also focus on strategies caregivers can use to meaningfully connect with their children in ways that feel safe for a traumatized child. Questions will be answered regarding why at times it is difficult for these children to form connections. We will explore how to use these strategies during a crisis or meltdown. This webinar will utilize small and large group discussions and visual displays.

Making Change: From Anger to Advocacy

Date/time: **Tuesday, May 14, 2024** • Program 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM (ET)

Location: **TWO-HOUR WEBINAR**

Presenter: **Lara Bouse**
 Executive Director, Fostering Forward Michigan



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

- Manage your frustration to focus on a core issue and all that feeds into it.
- Identify other voices or entities necessary to begin the process of attempting change.

Advanced skill level

Target audience:

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

Description: In this webinar, you will discuss and gain insight into how to turn frustration into action steps for a preferred outcome. Steps for advocacy and remaining positive while facing adversity and objections will be provided. You will be given the opportunity to explore concerns key to working through common concerns regarding the vast child welfare system(s) in Michigan. This webinar will utilize large group discussion and visual displays.