

CORE 101 COMPETENCIES

The following competencies are addressed in this training curriculum:

- The Child Welfare professional understands the legal and philosophical bases of Child Welfare practice.
- The Child Welfare professional knows legal categories and definitions of maltreatment in their practice jurisdiction; (for example, physical abuse, sexual abuse, neglect and endangerment.)
- The Child Welfare professional knows the values of Child Welfare practice, including client self-determination, permanence, family preservation, preservation of parent's and children's rights, and respect for individual differences.
- The Child Welfare professional understands the dual roles of the Child Welfare caseworker to protect children from maltreatment, and to provide services to enable and empower families.
- The Child Welfare professional can accurately identify physical, emotional, and behavioral indicators of abuse, neglect, and sexual abuse in child victims and their families.
- The Child Welfare professional knows how child abuse and neglect are presenting symptoms of family dysfunction, and can assess individual, family, and environmental contributors to abuse, neglect, and sexual abuse.
- The Child Welfare professional knows what data must be gathered from informants, case records, and other sources to thoroughly investigate alleged abuse or neglect, and knows how to use this data to support or refute the allegation.

- The Child Welfare professional can identify the factors which must be evaluated when assessing the level of risk for an abused or neglected child in the family, and can use a standardized risk assessment tool in completing the determination of risk.
- The Child Welfare professional can determine when abuse or neglect are substantiated or indicated; when complaints are unsubstantiated, yet should be referred for community services; and when complaints should be dismissed.
- The Child Welfare professional knows the responsibilities of the child protection agency and caseworker, including investigating complaints of maltreatment, providing ongoing in-home services, providing temporary substitute care placements, and providing permanent homes for children.
- The Child Welfare professional knows the proper roles and responsibilities of other community agencies in the child protective services process and can collaborate with these agencies and practitioners to develop case plans and to provide services.
- The Child Welfare professional understands the concept of cultural competence; knows how one's own culture affects behavior and values; and knows how cultural and ethnic differences may affect the delivery of child welfare services.
- The Child Welfare professional knows how in-home family services can prevent the removal of children from their home.