Why TAC is Needed

- Research shows that children who are adopted may face particular challenges to healthy adjustment.

- Among adopted children who have had traumatic experiences of abuse and neglect, it is not uncommon to see challenging behavioral and emotional responses.

- For all adopted children, there are issues of grief, loss and identity development that are layered onto the normal developmental tasks of childhood and adolescence.

- Many adopted children’s emotional issues are complex, and adoptive parents often identify these issues as the primary contributors to post-adoption family stressors.

- Access to adoption-competent mental health services is a critical factor in promoting positive outcomes for these children and their adoptive families, and the success of their adoptions.

The need for adoption competent mental health services continues to grow. U.S. Census data show that there are over 2.1 million adopted children in the United States. Over the past five years, more than 250,000 children have been adopted from the U.S. foster care system; more than 50,000 children have been adopted internationally by U.S. families; and an estimated 70,000 infants were domestically adopted.

About The Villages

The Villages is a fully licensed and accredited child and family services agency, working to support every child’s right to a safe, permanent and nurturing home. We are committed to strengthening all families and embracing the diversity and dignity of every child, youth and family served. The Villages is the only agency certified by C.A.S.E. to provide TAC in Indiana.

Contact Us:

The Villages
800-822-4888
www.VillagesKids.org

Training for Adoption Competency

The Center for Adoption Support & Education’s Clinical Competency Adoption Training (TAC) is an evidenced-informed training program that provides mental health professionals with the knowledge, skills and values they need to provide adoption competent mental health services.
Training for Adoption Competency

TAC is a 13-session (78 hours) competency based training program followed by a six month case consultation program for licensed mental health clinicians who provide pre- and post-adoption services to prospective adoptive parents, birth parents, adopted persons, and adoptive and kinship families. Eleven modules are classroom-based; one module is completed at-home; and the final classes provide participants with an opportunity to integrate learning. Each module combines information sharing, written handouts, resources, and experiential learning; including case studies, role plays, and introspective work. Six sessions of case consultation (held once monthly) follow the classroom training.

Clinicians can earn up to 78 CEUs.

13 Modules of TAC

1. Adoption History, Law and Process
2. Introduction to Adoption Competent Mental Health Practice
3. Clinical and Ethical Issues in Planning, Preparing for, and Supporting Adoption
4. Clinical Issues in Providing Therapeutic Services: Grief, Loss, and Separation
5. Trauma and Brain Neurobiology
6. Clinical Issues in Providing Therapeutic Services: Attachment
7. Adopted Adolescents and Identity Development
8. Adoptive and Birth Families
9. Adoptive Family Formation, Integration, and Developmental Stages
10. Clinical Work with Adoptive Families Managing Challenging Behaviors
11. Openness in Adoption and Birth Family Culture
12. Race and Ethnicity
13. Integrating Knowledge, Values and Skills

Benefits for Clinicians

- Enhance your skills in adoption with training. Research supported.
- Rigorous evaluations of TAC participants compared to qualified not enrolled professionals show students scored an average 31.29 points higher.
- All TAC completers report change in at least two of the six aspects of practice. And 54% of students completing training reported change in all six aspects.
- TAC provides up to 78 CEUs.

Benefits for Employers

- TAC-trained clinicians respond to the growing need for adoption competent mental health professionals.
- Adoption competent clinicians on staff enhance the agency’s image and reputation, while attracting increasing numbers of referrals with a resulting positive impact on revenue.
- Research shows that adoptive families are significantly more likely to choose a well trained, adoption competent therapist over one who is not.
- Well trained clinicians experience greater job satisfaction, higher levels of motivation, and are more likely to remain in their positions, reducing employee turnover.
- Specially-trained adoption competent clinicians support their agencies in risk management by bringing quality, evidenced clinical practices to their work.