



Knowing Who You Are...Helping Youth In Care Develop Their Racial and Ethnic Identity

Project Vision

Youth in care develop a positive and healthy sense of their racial and ethnic identity including pride in their racial and ethnic heritage, multicultural competence and preparation for racism and discrimination.

Project Goal

To implement learning experiences that provide social workers with knowledge, skills, tools, and resources supporting the engagement of youth in their racial and ethnic identity formation in day-to-day social work practice.

Engagement includes:

- Staff who are committed to assisting youth reach a developmentally appropriate, positive and healthy sense of racial and ethnic identity.
- Providing youth with the necessary supports opportunities and skills to reach their full racial and ethnic identity.

Racial & Ethnic Identity Project Format

- **Video:** Raise awareness about the importance of helping youth in care develop their racial and ethnic identity. Intended as a call to action; does not include specific knowledge and skills that social workers need to do this work. Accompanying the video is a facilitator and viewers guide with discussion questions for the group.
- **Elearning:** Provides basic knowledge and introduces key skills needed to effectively work with youth around racial and ethnic identity. Intended to also assist worker in reflecting on and developing their own racial and ethnic identity.
- **In Person Learning Event:** Two day, facilitated, in person event. Agenda includes large and small group activities and discussion to further enhance and build on awareness, knowledge and skills gained from the video and elearning course with an emphasis on skill building and face-to-face practice and interaction.

Target Audience

The target audience for the in person learning event are social workers, social work supervisors, organization/agency administrators and other stakeholders working in private/public child welfare organizations.

Constituents, including alumni, caregivers and birth parents are invited to participate as “experts” at the in person learning events with the role of sharing insights regarding their own experience with the child welfare system and issues of racial and ethnic identity.