RELEVANT CHILD WELFARE OUTCOMES

Safety 1
Children are, first and foremost, protected from abuse and neglect.

Permanency 1
Children have permanency and stability in their living situations without increasing reentry to foster care.

Well-being 3
Children receive services adequate to their physical, emotional, and mental health needs.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Knowledge:

K1. The trainee will be able to describe the nexus between substance abuse and child maltreatment.

K2. The trainee will be able to describe the prevalence of substance abuse problems among caregivers of children in the child welfare system.

K3. The trainee will be able to identify common dynamics of substance abuse in families and the impact substance abuse has on child development and child safety.

K4. The trainee will recognize the following indicators of substance abuse:
   a) physiological indicators of substance abuse;
   b) social and psychological indicators of substance abuse;
   c) environmental indicators of substance abuse; and
   d) signs and symptoms of the most commonly used drugs associated with substance abuse and child maltreatment.

K5. The trainee will recognize intergenerational risk factors associated with substance abuse.
K6. The trainee will be able to describe the continuum of substance use, abuse, dependence and relapse.

K7. The trainee will be able to describe the different levels of AOD treatment and how treatment is determined.

K8. The trainee will be able to describe the treatment and recovery process, including relapse prevention.

K9. The trainee will recognize the terms and findings of formal substance abuse assessments.

K10. The trainee will be able to identify the stages of change and strategies for engaging and motivating family members experiencing substance abuse.

K11. The trainee will recognize the difference between substance abuse related safety concerns and substance abuse related risk.

**Skills:**

S1 Given a case example, the trainee will be able to:

a) formulate questions to assess safety and risk concerns related to current and previous substance abuse,

b) identify signs of substance abuse, and

c) make a decision about whether a referral for substance abuse assessment is needed*.

S2. Given a case example, the trainee will be able to explain how substance abuse treatment and recovery planning inform the case planning process.

**Values:**

V1. The trainee will value awareness of personal biases related to substance abuse and the importance of setting aside bias to focus on the needs of the family.

V2. The trainee will value the involvement of families in decision-making process about AOD problems.

V3. The trainee will value strength-based approaches and culturally-specific supports and interventions to address AOD problems.

V4. The trainee will value using observation and validated screening tools to assist in the determination of whether or not substance abuse is a factor in child abuse or child neglect.

V5. The trainee will value monitoring and supporting a caregiver’s substance abuse treatment plan.
V6. The trainee will value collaboration with treatment providers, public agencies and community agencies in an effort to support families and children challenged by AOD problems.

**RELATED TITLE IV-E CURRICULUM COMPETENCIES**

The Title IV-E MSW competencies were developed for the M.S.W. specialization in public child welfare in California, a two-year full time graduate program. The MSW competencies may overlap with the common core competencies, but are primarily designed for a full MSW program. Learning objectives and competencies in the common core support the MSW Title IV-E competencies, but not all of the IV-E material can be delivered during an in-service training session. MSW Title IV-E competencies may therefore be linked to multiple topic areas of the common core.

**CP 1.1.** Interact positively with clients, colleagues and supervisors and demonstrate skill in seeking out suitable client services and ensuring client access to those services.

**CP 1.2.** Maintain professional demeanor and boundaries in practice situations, demonstrate skill in articulating professional knowledge and effective use of self, and utilize appropriate resources to ensure professional growth.

**CF 6.b.** Demonstrate knowledge of how to consult and utilize research evidence to inform ongoing practice and policy at all levels.

**CA 7.1.** Integrate knowledge and theory of human behavior and the social environment from diverse perspectives to conduct reliable and valid assessments, comprehensive service plans, effective interventions, and meaningful evaluations in child welfare.

**CF 10(a).a.** Demonstrate the knowledge base and affective readiness to intervene constructively with individuals and groups.

**CA 10(a).1.** Demonstrate the ability to develop relationships and manage power differentials in routine and challenging client and partner situations, in a manner that reflects core social work values in child welfare practice.

**CF 10(b).d.** Demonstrate ability to critically determine the most appropriate intervention strategies to implement a plan.

*Validated screening tools are available to assist in determining the need for a referral.*