## **Advancing Practice**

for Permanency & Well-Being



for Child Welfare & Mental Health Professionals



# Sharing the Opportunity



**National** Adoption Competency Mental Health **Training Initiative** 

**Advancing Practice for Permanency & Well-Being** 

# Are you a Child Welfare or Mental Health Professional wanting better outcomes for children & families?



# With NTI training, you and your organization can be a part of needed system change!



#### Address and Conquer the Challenges

The National Adoption Competency Mental Health Training Initiative (NTI) has developed two free, state-of-the-art, web-based trainings to build the capacity of Child Welfare and Mental Health Professionals to better understand and address the mental health needs of children, youth and their foster, adoptive, and guardianship families.

With NTI, professionals can develop a shared language to address the challenges that families face!

## Aligned Trainings Provide the Skills, Strategies, and Tools to...

- Enable children to heal from trauma and loss.
- Provide parents with skills to parent more effectively.
- Collaborate more effectively with child welfare and mental health professionals.
- Improve outcomes for permanency, increase child and family well-being, and promote stability.

#### Put the Goals and Strategies of NTI to Work

NTI also improves collaboration between service systems, leading to real practice change and improved outcomes.





### Why is Specialized Training Needed?

Because of traumatic life experiences and compromised beginnings, many children in foster, adoptive, or guardianship families experience elevated risks for developmental, health, emotional, and behavioral challenges.



The impact of these experiences and challenges compromises well-being and family stability. NTI has been shown to improve casework and clinical practice by infusing permanency, adoption & mental health competency.

# NTI Training is provided at No Cost and is Proven to build the capacity of the workforce.

NTI is designed to help child welfare and mental health professionals effectively support children, youth and their foster, adoptive, and guardianship families.

- Evaluation Findings: In pilot testing with nearly 9,000 professionals, significant gaps in knowledge around the core issues and mental health challenges of foster care, adoptive and guardianship families were found.
  - Participants made improvements to their practice and casework with children and families as a result of NTI
  - Significant knowledge gains were found after all modules



NTI was funded through a cooperative agreement (#90C01121) between the Children's Bureau, Administration for Children and Families, US Department of Health and Human Services and the Center for Adoption Support and Education (C.A.S.E.).

# More than 20 professionals, scholars, and those with *lived experience* had a part in developing NTI.

### Comments from NTI Participants:

- I liked this training more than any other I've done in my 23 years as a Child Welfare Professional!
- I've never seen anything like it, having a comprehensive training and body of knowledge all in one place. Knowing how to help the parents' understanding of what is beneath the adoptive child's behavior takes a high skill from the clinician, and this training really helps!
- It was comprehensive in covering the most important topics inherent in this work to promote a competent and skilled workforce across the continuum. I needed the resources to expand my follow-up and support to families and workers who often call for support.

### **Next Steps**

- #1 Learn more about the NTI training and pilot: www.adoptionsupport.org/nti
- #2 Share your needs & be notified of training access: www.adoptionsupport.org/national-info4nti