

Why Child Welfare Professionals Need **nti** Training



***Building Competencies and Skills
to Enhance Permanency and Well-Being***

Facts + Considerations



National Adoption Competency
Mental Health **Training Initiative**

Advancing Practice for Permanency & Well-Being



National Adoption Competency Mental Health Training Initiative

Why is *Specialized* Training Needed for Child Welfare Professionals?

The American Academy of Pediatricians has identified mental health as the greatest unmet need of children in foster care.¹



The Child and Family Service Reviews (CFSR) show that child welfare systems have struggled to provide accessible and effective behavioral health services to children in foster care.²

The shortage of permanency and adoption competent mental health professionals is a contributing factor. This includes fully qualified and skillful clinicians who also understand complex adoption/guardianship related issues such as trauma, attachment, grief and loss, and identity.³

1. The American Academy of Pediatricians, 2014.

2. USDHHS, 2011.

3. McCrae, Barth, & Guo, 2010; Festinger, 2006; NACAC 2007.

Advancing Practice for Permanency and Well-Being!

NTI will increase the capacity of organizations...



**to meet the challenges that
compromise well-being and family stability.**

➔ **Child Welfare Professionals *at all levels* will
benefit from the free web-based NTI training**

The National Adoption Competency Mental Health Training Initiative (NTI) has developed two free, state-of-the-art, standardized, web-based trainings to build the capacity of Child Welfare and Mental Health Professionals to more effectively support children, youth, and their foster, adoptive, and guardianship families.

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.).

www.adoptionsupport.org / **nti**

- The 8 module interactive curriculum for Child Welfare Professionals is approximately 20 hours long.
- Supervisors have additional lessons designed to advance skills to more effectively support staff.
- NTI is flexible, self-navigated, and can be completed at the pace that meets your needs.

NTI enhances capacity for better outcomes across the continuum of Child Welfare Services

NTI provides tools, strategies, and a shared language to collaborate with the multi-disciplinary professionals who serve families involved with child welfare services.

"I've been involved with many different trainings, both at the county level and the state which have focused on permanency.

NTI training is distinct as one that is very much needed, and focuses on enabling our children to be healed. I recommend this for workers state-wide.

It's high level free training and makes such a difference for both supervisors and staff. There are big knowledge gains in multiple areas."

State Child Welfare Manager

Your Organization can *make the difference!*

NTI enables Child Welfare Agencies to engage *effectively* with children, youth, and families who've experienced trauma, loss and grief.

Advantages and Benefits of NTI:

- Piloted with over 6,000 Child Welfare Professionals, participants experienced significant knowledge gains on all training modules and reported improvements to their casework practice.
- Provides standardized training for Child Welfare Professionals.
- Teaches skills that are trauma informed, consistent with the Family First Act.
- Emphasizes strategies that address multiple CFSR outcomes, including placement stability, preservation of family connections, and services to meet mental health needs.



Designed to improve the permanency and well-being outcomes for children, NTI's *impact* is far reaching!

“ NTI offers an easy-to-use comprehensive overview of the unique issues of children in adoption and foster care. ”

David Brodzinsky, NTI Advisor, Professor Emeritus of Clinical Psychology, Rutgers University

“ NTI is the most concise training I have seen for Child Welfare staff ever! It gets to the heart of the work, and really gives hands on tools for staff to use in supporting children and families. ”

Deputy Director, Child Welfare Services

“ I have been able to use the knowledge and understanding gained from this training in almost every area of my job! ”

NTI Participant

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**

