



NICWA

National Indian Child Welfare Association
Protecting Our Children • Preserving Our Culture

Working with Substance-Abusing Families

Sample Agenda

Please note: Agenda Items are subject to change

Day 1

Welcome and Introduction
Overview of Training

Lesson 1: Issues in Substance Abuse

- History, prevalence, and culture
- Historic trauma and addiction
- Relationship to Child Welfare
- Impact on Children
- Roles of the tribal child welfare worker
- Break

Lesson 2: Basics of Addiction and Recovery

- Substance use continuum
- Understanding Addiction
- Diversity of beliefs and approaches
- Trauma and addiction
- FASD and addiction
- Co-occurring disorders
- Options for treatment and recovery
- Recovery timeline
- Lunch

Lesson 3: Substance Abuse and Child Welfare

- Percentage of cases
- When is substance abuse a child welfare problem?
- Laying the foundation
- The tribal child welfare worker's roles
- Break

Lesson 4: Identifying Alcohol and Drug Abuse

- Definitions
- Substances of choice
- Behavioral and environmental signs
- Adult indicators
- Family indicators—roles and rules
- Child indicators (behavioral)
- Adjourn day one

Day 2

- Welcome and overview of day two

Part A: Opioid-Affected Families

- Facts and environment
- Types and street names
- Signs of use
- Addiction/treatment
- Risks to children
- Community issues
- Break

Part B: Meth-Affected Families

- Facts and environment
- Types and street names
- Signs of use
- Addiction/treatment
- Risks to children
- Community issues
- Lunch

Lesson 5: Mobilizing Treatment:

- Knowing the resources
- Mobilizing the family
- Casework tips
- Achieving a team approach
- Additional resources
- Break



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Lesson 6: Supporting Treatment

- Support roles of the child welfare worker
- Casework activities
- Continuing assessment
- Adjourn day two

Day 3

Welcome and preview of day three

Lesson 7: Post-Treatment Case work

- Focus of casework
- Supporting changes
- Relapse planning
- Break

Lesson 8: Assisting the child

- Needs and care
- Support
- Education
- Lunch

Lesson 9: Service Coordination and Collaboration

- Safety issues
- Basing service coordination on a holistic assessment
- Developing a clear plan: case management, care coordination, wraparound
- System-level issues
- Break

Lesson 10: Healing the Healer

- Relational worldview
- Definitions of trauma
- Intentional resilience
- Evaluation
- Adjourn and travel home safe