Where and When

The training will alternate between the UCONN School of Social Work, West Hartford and Southern CT State University, New Haven on Mondays and Fridays from 9—4:00 p.m. (includes an hour lunch break).

Participants must be able to commit to all of the training dates (and make-up sessions) and complete pre-session assignments that will be due before every class:

Monday, October 28, 2013

Friday, November 8, 2013

Friday, November 22, 2013

Monday, December 9, 2013

Monday, January 13, 2014

Friday, February 21, 2014

Monday, March 10, 2014

Friday, March 28, 2014

Monday, April 7, 2014

Friday, April 25, 2014

Monday, May 12, 2014

Friday, May 30, 2014

Make-Up Dates:

Monday, June 9, 2014

Friday, June 20, 2014

Application Requirements

Application form available at: www.ssw.uconn.edu > Our Programs > STEP Professional Development

- **Priority will be given** to licensed clinicians or those under clinical supervision in preparation for licensure with a Master's degree in social work, counseling or related discipline.

- **Then,** Master's level professionals (social work, counseling or related discipline) that do not hold a clinical license and are not under clinical supervision.

- **Lastly,** Bachelor's level social workers with at least 5 years of adoption experience.

- Current employment in a clinical practice setting.

- Demonstrate in your personal statement and resume:

1. Strong clinical background

2. Interest in working with adopted persons, prospective adoptive parents, birth parents and birth families, adoptive families and kinship families in a clinical setting.

3. Describe how you will incorporate the learning from the TAC program into your clinical practice.

Space is limited. The Review Committee will evaluate each applicant's resume, written statement, and application and advise of its determination.
Applications will be accepted until all slots are filled.

Training for Adoption Competency (TAC)
2013-2014

A partnership with

the nonprofit CENTER FOR ADOPTION SUPPORT AND EDUCATION since 1998
C.A.S.E.

Funded by

DCF CONNECTICUT

In collaboration with

UCONN SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

Southern Connecticut State University
SCSU

Support & Technical Assistance

Adoption Assistance Program
University of Connecticut Health Center

About TAC

Training for Adoption Competency (TAC) is a comprehensive training for professionals in the social work, mental health, and child welfare fields. The training will provide you with the clinical knowledge and skills needed to effectively serve the adoption kinship network.

UCONN is one of several sites across the United States certified by The Center for Adoption Support and Education (C.A.S.E.) to provide this training.

∗ TAC is a standardized training program that is being replicated across the United States.

∗ TAC is a rigorously evaluated, competency based, training curriculum developed in collaboration with national experts in the field of child welfare, adoption, and mental health.

∗ TAC is a 78-hour, 13-session (1 on-line, 12 face-to-face) program followed by 6 monthly group clinical case consultation sessions.

Fee: $1125 -
Payable by check to: UCONN SSW

Payment can be made in three installments of $375 per month (October, November, December). The fee includes 78 hours of instruction and 6 months of case consultation.

Content Areas

- Adoption, History, Law and Process

- Introduction to Adoption Competent Mental Health Practice

- Clinical and Ethical Issues in Planning, Preparing for and Supporting Adoption

- Clinical Issues in Providing Therapeutic Services: Grief, Loss, and Separation

- Trauma and Brain Neurobiology

- Clinical Issues in Providing Therapeutic Services: Attachment

- Adopted Adolescents and Identity Development

- Adoptive and Birth Families

- Adoptive Family Formation, Integration, and Developmental Stages

- Clinical Work with Adoptive Families: Managing Challenging Behaviors

- Openness in Adoption and Birth Family Culture

- Race and Ethnicity

- Integrating Knowledge, Values and Skills

Trainers: Cathy Gentile-Doyle, LCSW
Mary Harris-Miller, LCSW

TAC Learning Objectives:

- Learn the theoretical framework and therapeutic approach of adoption competent mental health practice.

- Understand the legal and ethical issues that impact adoption.

- Develop clinical skills in working with birth families, children and prospective adoption parents.

- Develop clinical skills in working with adopted children and adoptive families—loss, grief, separation, impact of genetics, etc.

- Learn how trauma impacts adopted children and tools and techniques to support recovery.

- Learn how to support adoptive parents in developing therapeutic strategies in responses to children's challenging behaviors.

- Develop assessment and interventions skills with different types of adoptive and birth families.

- Learn the developmental stages of adoptive families and the process of adoptive family formation and integration.

- Develop skills in working with adopted children, youth and adults, adoptive families and birth families on issues of openness and connections.

- Develop an understanding of the racial, ethnic and cultural issues in adoption and how to work with transracial and transcultural families.

- Learn how to assess and refer adoptive and birth families to adjunct therapies.

- Learn how to work effectively with service systems and the community.

For more information: SSWSTEP@uconn.edu   (860) 570-9129   www.ssw.uconn.edu > Our Programs > STEP Professional Development