

# TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

October – December 2025

*The TFI Family Services Training Department is pleased to present a quarterly list of exciting and informative trainings. Please share the list with any current or potential foster or adoptive parents, relative or kinship providers, or child welfare professionals who may be interested in attending.*

*All trainings are virtual unless otherwise specified in the training description.*

## Training Enrollment

### Kansas

TFI/MNS staff members should enroll through the agency learning management system, as well as through the Kansas Children's Alliance site. Foster/adoptive parents, relative/kinship providers, and other child welfare professionals should enroll through the Kansas Children's Alliance website at [learn.childdaily.org/account/login](https://learn.childdaily.org/account/login). A free account is required to enroll. If you do not have an account, please select the "Create Account" option on their training page. When prompted for a code, please use **LEARN**. You will receive an automated e-mail confirming your enrollment, as well as the link and additional information for the training(s) you have selected.

### Other States

TFI/MNS staff members should enroll through the agency learning management system. Foster/adoptive parents, relative/kinship providers, and other child welfare professionals located outside of Kansas should enroll through EventBrite at <https://mnstraining.eventbrite.com>. Once you have selected the class(es) you want, enter **TFI** as the promotional code at checkout. You will receive an automated e-mail confirming your enrollment. A separate e-mail will be sent from the trainer with your login information approximately 24 hours prior to the start time.

**\*\*Per Children's Alliance: Cameras are required to be on during all virtual trainings.\*\***

*If you do not receive the link to your class by the morning of the training, or you have any questions or concerns, please e-mail our Training Department at [KSPTStaff@tfifamily.org](mailto:KSPTStaff@tfifamily.org).*

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### LIVE WEBINAR TRAININGS

#### **ACE (Adverse Childhood Experiences)**

Participants will learn about the ACE study and the examined long-term impacts of various childhood traumatic experiences. This study found long term mental and physical consequences related to 2 or more adverse experiences. They will also learn how to help children navigate trauma in a proactive and healing way.

- *November 7, 2025*      *2:00pm-3:30pm*      *CA # 13462*
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#### **Aggressive Behaviors: Understanding and Managing**

This training will help the audience to understand aggressive behaviors and anger in children; understand underlying issues that can cause aggressive behaviors; help the audience to recognize the aggression process in a child and identify ways to work with the child through that process; provide crisis intervention/management, parenting strategies, and techniques to help with aggressive children, as well as, all other children; and provide information on different forms of discipline and its role in teaching children to become self-disciplined and make healthy choices.

- *October 28, 2025*      *1:00pm-2:00pm*      *CA # 13453*
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#### **Attachment, Separation, Grief, and Loss**

This training will identify the challenges of facing attachment, separation, grief, and loss due to the transitional nature of caring for foster children; examine the different attachment styles; assist foster parents in cultivating their abilities to be thoughtful and responsive to their foster child's needs; and identify coping skills and strategies for foster parents and children as they progress toward the formation of more healthy and secure attachments. Participants will also explore the 5 stages of grief, with examples of how they may be expressed in the foster care system; will gain knowledge in preventative measures; and will identify coping skills and resilience factors to manage grief and loss.

- *December 12, 2025*      *3:00pm-4:30pm*      *CA # 13515*
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#### **Food Insecurities In Children**

Participants will be able to define food insecurity, define and identify food insecurity behaviors in children, learn contributing factors that lead to food insecurity, and learn interventions and strategies to reduce food insecurity behaviors.

- *December 18, 2025*      *10:00am-11:30am*      *CA # 13520*

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### Improving Foster Placement Stability

Participants will be able to define disruption and learn factors that contribute to disruptions in foster care. Participants will gain an understanding in why disruptions occur and be able to recognize the stages of disruption. Finally, participants will learn ways to prevent disruptions and strategies to improve placement stability.

- *November 21, 2025*      *10:00am-11:30am*      *CA # 13488*
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### Mental Health Basics

Participants will be able to identify stigma and/or assumptions about mental illness diagnoses; define and understand basic mental health diagnoses and symptoms and common treatments; and learn how to apply strategies and coping skills to manage behavior and symptoms.

- *November 13, 2025*      *2:00pm-3:30pm*      *CA # 13475*
  - *December 4, 2025*      *10:00am-11:30am*      *CA # 13475*
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### Normalcy and Child Development

Normalcy refers to allowing youth in out-of-home care to experience childhood and adolescence in ways similar to their peers not in foster care. This course will help you understand the need for children in your care to experience normalcy. After this training you will be able to define normalcy, discuss reasonable and prudent parenting, determine activities right for a child's age, and recognize that normal activities are important for children and teens.

- *December 9, 2025*      *11:00am-12:30pm*      *CA # 13507*
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### Parenting Children With Special Needs

Participants will gain an understanding of the most common types of special needs: physical, development, behavioral/emotional, and sensory impaired. Participants will understand the different approaches being a parent with a special needs child. We will also discuss parenting styles to understand what the best style is for a child.

- *November 18, 2025*      *6:00pm-7:00pm*      *CA # 13482*

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## Prevention of Peer-To-Peer Abuse

Participants will learn the essentials of preventing peer-to-peer abuse, how, when and where peer-to-peer abuse occurs, gain understanding on how adults contribute to the risks, which behavioral warning signs to watch for, how to distinguish between sexual curiosity and sexual abuse and acquire skills on how to detect and prevent peer-to-peer abuse and the importance of educating youth, staff, caregivers and volunteers on the scope of the sexual abuse problem and how to detect and prevent peer-to-peer abuse.

- *December 5, 2025*      *9:00am-10:30am*      *CA # 13500*
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## Regulating Emotions

This training teaches parents how to regulate their emotions while also finding ways to help those in their care deal with their feelings and emotions when times get tough. Strategies include 6 ways to boost emotional regulation

skills and ways to identify the different types of expressive anger in children and youth. Looking at what's behind the anger while modeling appropriate reactions to behaviors will be the focus of this training.

- *November 1, 2025*      *10:00am-11:00am*      *CA # 13456*
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## Runaway Behaviors

Learning Objectives: • Identify the occurrence of runaway behaviors • Learn about the risk factors and predictors of runaway behaviors • Gain understanding into why runaway behaviors are an option to at risk youth • Learn coping strategies that providers can teach youth as proactive measures to prevent runaway behaviors.

- *November 24, 2025*      *11:30am-1:30pm*      *CA # 13170*



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## TRAINER BIOGRAPHIES

**Jocelyn Goerzen** is a Training Specialist in Area 8 out of the Wellington, KS office for TFI Family Services. She has over two decades of experience in child welfare and mental health. Jocelyn has cultivated a deep commitment to fostering positive outcomes for children and families. Her professional journey in addition to her extensive experience as a foster parent for approximately 18 years includes various roles in a Qualified Residential Treatment Program (QRTP), spanning from working as a Mental Health Technician and advancing to supervisory positions and the Education and Independent Living Coordinator. She played a pivotal role in developing and implementing programs designed to support the educational and life skills needs of youth in care. Jocelyn's niche in Child Welfare is parenting teens that have lived in foster care and helping them adjust to post-adoption life. Jocelyn's career is distinguished by her hands-on experience and leadership in both direct care and program development, underscoring her expertise in the field of child welfare and her unwavering commitment to improving the lives of young people and their families.

**Libby Hayden** is the Administrative Training Specialist for all TFI programs and is based out of Overland Park. She has over 35 years working in child welfare and mental health services. Libby is best known for her experience in recruiting and developing foster families. She is a Certified MAPP and Deciding Together Leader who has helped numerous foster/adoptive families make an informed decision about parenting children who have experienced trauma. In her current role as training specialist, Libby has created and delivered training around best practice for workers. She brings energy and passion to all the topics she teaches. When she is not teaching, you will find her mentoring peers, helping others in the agency or co-leading the TQI Quality and Innovation group.

**Renee Lilly** is a Training Specialist in Area 8 out of the Wichita, KS office for TFI Family Services. Renee holds a B.S. in Psychology with an emphasis in Child Development from Wichita State University. Renee has 15 years of expertise training in Child Welfare and Child Development. She has experience as a Foster Care worker and has worked in Parent Education, Kinship care, and Child Care Resource and Referral. She is also a certified MAPP/DT instructor and certified Safe Sleep instructor through the KIDS Network.

**Marion Morris** is a Training Supervisor with TFI Family Services for regions located in Central and Southeast Kansas. He has over 20 years of social service experience in different capacities, including working with at-risk teenagers in residential settings, children and families in the foster care system & low-income communities, foster and adoptive parents, and community resource providers and advocates. Marion has also been training various topics for the past 12 years, ranging from topics that include foster/adoptive parenting licensing & certification, car seat installation, CPR & 1st Aid instructor, trauma-informed care, and behavior interventions.

**Alistair Smith** (they/them) is a Training Specialist with TFI Family Services in Southeast Kansas. Alistair holds both a B.S. and M.A. in Communication from Pittsburg State University. They worked as a victim-advocate for survivors of domestic and sexual violence and stalking, specializing in supporting college student survivors. They are a Kansas Academy for Victim Assistance graduate and a former nationally-accredited advocate. Alistair has spent 10+ years educating youth and adults on topics related to mental health and wellbeing, substance abuse prevention, sex education, healthy and unhealthy relationships, the LGBTQIAP2S+ community, sexual and domestic violence response and prevention, human trafficking response and prevention, trauma-informed care, and compassion fatigue and secondary trauma. They believe in building equitable trauma-informed spaces to learn where people can address their biases, find new perspectives, practice empathy, and take steps toward growth. Alistair encourages learners to embrace exploration and remember that learning isn't always a neat linear perfect process. To quote their favorite educator, "Take chances, make mistakes, and get messy!"