



ONLINE TRAINING FOR FOSTER PARENTS

Monday, 6/2

Infant Safety

Lisa Bingley

7:30-9:00 pm

Infants rely on caregivers to maintain a safe environment and to practice safe techniques. In this session, we will share tips and resources to assist you in providing respectful and thoughtful caregiving with our youngest children. We will review preparing a safe environment as well as how to manage challenges that commonly arise during this developmental stage.

Presented by Lisa Bingley, MEd, Developmental Specialist at MENTOR Early Intervention.

Tuesday, 6/3

Building Healthy Relationships With Children to Support Healing

Gwenn Bass

11:30 am-1:00 pm

When kids experience trauma and disrupted attachments, they often have unique needs when it comes to developing new bonds. This session describes the impact of trauma and introduces strategies caregivers can use to connect with children.

Presented by Dr. Gwenn Bass, a researcher and educator, dedicated to improving outcomes for children who have experienced trauma. She presents regularly on inclusive classroom practices, resilience-building parenting strategies and trauma-sensitive teaching.

Thursday, 6/5

Puberty and Its Many Changes

Planned Parenthood

7:30-9:00 pm

Puberty is a time of immense change and incredible growth. Negotiating this period of life can be an exciting, challenging, and even overwhelming experience for young people as well as their parents. Talking with children is an important way that we can help them adapt to the changes in their bodies, feelings, and responsibilities, as well as validate these changes. This workshop provides participants with the understanding and tools to validate changes, to understand how universal the changes are, and to support their young person through this time.

Presented by a representative from Planned Parenthood.

Monday, 6/9

Culturally Responsive Foster Parenting

Judith Willison & Wendy Champagnie Williams

7:30-9:00 pm

This session introduces participants to cultural responsiveness and reviews knowledge and skills that support parenting strategies for diverse children and youth. We will explore avenues to embrace cultural humility, celebrate multicultural identity development, deepen communication, uncover stereotypes, and overcome implicit bias.

Presented by Judith Willison PhD, LICSW, a retired associate professor and current research fellow at Bridgewater State University School of Social Work and Wendy Champagnie Williams PhD, LICSW, associate professor and Graduate Chair and Coordinator of the MSW program at Bridgewater State University School of Social Work.

Tuesday, 6/10

Creating Safer Communities

Greater Boston PFLAG

7:30-9:00 pm

How can we all contribute to making safer and more accepting communities for LGBTQ+ students and youth? For educators, staff and anyone who wants to help support LGBTQ+ people but don't necessarily know where to begin. Learn LGBTQ+ basics and inclusive language, conversation techniques including micro affirmations and pronoun use. With this training, you'll develop your skills and adapt actionable tools to create more inclusive and affirming learning spaces and communities.

Presented by a representative from Greater Boston PFLAG

Thursday, 6/12

Gender and Sexual Identity

Planned Parenthood

7:30-9:00 pm

Comprehensive sex education that is age appropriate, medically accurate, and LGBTQ-inclusive helps young people live healthy, safe lives. Studies show that sex education is proven to delay the initiation of sex, reduce the frequency of sex, and prevent STIs and sexual assault amongst young people. It arms young people with information to make their healthiest decisions. Parents are the primary sex educator of their children and comprehensive sex education fosters greater communication between caregivers and children about sex, relationships, and staying healthy.

Presented by a representative from Planned Parenthood

Monday, 6/16

Here Comes EI

Lisa Bingley

10:30am-12:30pm

This session will review the steps families can take to get Early Intervention services for their foster children ages birth to three years old. We will discuss and review how Early Intervention supports the child in foster care and where to find development resources. We will also review supports available to include biological parents in the Early Intervention services.

Presented by Lisa Bingley, MEd, Developmental Specialist and Clinical Supervisor at Mentor South Bay Early Intervention.

Wednesday, 6/18

Supporting and Maintaining Family Connections

Michael Medeiros

7:30-9pm

This session centers on a "Shared Parenting" approach as we highlight the importance of maintaining family connections for children placed in foster care. Allowing children to feel a sense of wholeness, respecting what family represents, and building alliances with the family of origin are essential to nurturing a child's sense of well-being.

Presented by Michael Medeiros, foster and adoptive parent

Thursday, 6/19

Promoting Social Skills

Cindy Horgan

7:30-9pm

Learning is more than numbers and letters to support children's growth and success in life; it requires building a foundation of social and emotional skills. Learn how our relationships and experiences in everyday life helps build this valuable foundation for life.

Presented by Cindy Horgan, Director Family Support Services of the Cape Cod Children's Place in North Eastham. She is trained in many curriculums and provides both family support and education in many of our communities.

Tuesday, 6/24

Protection Methods

Planned Parenthood

7:30-9pm

There are a variety of reasons that someone might use different protection methods, including protecting against STIs, preventing pregnancy, and controlling menstruation or hormone fluctuation. Providing young people with information about protection methods means that the information is accessible for whenever the young person wants it. Whatever the reason and whatever the timeline for someone to use protection methods, this workshop is designed to help parents understand different methods available and prepare to have conversations about these methods with young people.

Presenting by a representative from Planned Parenthood

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