



FUNDAMENTALS OF FOSTERING

The Ohio Child Welfare Training Program (OCWTP) has developed a series of trainings designed specifically for you, the newly licensed foster caregiver. These trainings, which can be used to meet the first two years of your ongoing training requirement, build on the knowledge you gained during Preservice training. They allow you to develop and apply the knowledge you need as a foster caregiver, enhancing your confidence and your ability to adapt your parenting style to meet the needs of the children placed in your home. Talk to your Licensing Specialist about registering for the series *Fundamentals of Fostering*.

Child Development Fundamentals (3 hours)	Early Childhood Development (3 hours)
This training provides a framework for thinking about child development. Principles of child development are reviewed and key concepts, such as brain plasticity and protective factors, are defined.	This training reviews typical developmental patterns of children from birth to five years. Brain development during these critical years is discussed, as well as key developmental tasks. Caregivers will learn how they can help build protective factors in young children to enhance their development.
Middle Childhood Development (3 hours)	923-FF4-S The Development of Adolescents: The Effects of Abuse and Neglect (6 hours)
This training reviews typical developmental patterns of children from ages six to twelve. Brain development is discussed, as well as key developmental tasks. Caregivers will learn how they can help build protective factors in children to enhance their development.	This training reviews typical developmental patterns of adolescents and discusses the impact of abuse, neglect and separation. It highlights various exceptional needs, and provides parenting tips and strategies to more effectively meet the needs of adolescents in care.
923-FF5-S Healthy Sexual Development of Children and Teens (6 hours)	923-FF6-S Recognizing and Responding to Children Who Have Been Sexually Abused (6 hours)
This training will help foster caregivers know when a child's sexual expression is normative and developmentally appropriate; how to discuss sexual issues with children and adolescents in a way that is consistent with their developmental level; and how to maintain a supportive and safe environment with children and adolescents that encourages healthy sexual development.	This training examines the definition and dynamics of the sexual abuse of children, explores the pervasive pathology existing within the sexually abusing home, and presents extensive parenting strategies to prepare the home and enhance the child's ongoing care.

924-FF7-S Understanding and Building Attachment (6 hours)	925-FF8-S Discipline in Foster Care: Managing Our Behaviors to Manage Theirs (6 hours)
This training distinguishes characteristics of secure attachment from those of insecure attachment, provides information on how separation and placement impacts and is impacted by the child's attachment pattern, and presents a template for parenting children with insecure attachment.	This training will focus on understanding the caregiver's overall parenting style and its impact on the child's behavior, the special issues of parenting an abused/neglected child, and how to individualize discipline strategies to meet the needs and issues of each child.
926-FF9-S Foster Families and How They Grow: Understanding the Effects of Fostering (6 hours)	926-FF10-S Defusing Crisis Situations Safely and Sanelly (6 hours)
This training presents stages of foster family adjustment, explores emerging roles and barriers to fulfilling those roles, and assists foster caregivers in developing strategies to build a healthy fostering experience.	This training helps participants understand anger as an unmet need, identify the stages of a developing crisis, and build corresponding de-escalation skills. Participants will assess how their values, expectations, and responses to anger and personal temperament can diffuse a situation or contribute to even greater escalation.
927-FF11-S Cultural Issues in Foster Care: Dealing with the Dynamics of Difference (6 hours)	928-FF12-S Relating to Primary Families: Understanding Challenges, Issues, and Strategies for Success (6 hours)
This training examines common cultural misconceptions and conflicts involved in fostering. Ethno-centrism, stereotyping, prejudice, and discrimination are discussed. Parenting strategies are presented to assist foster children in the formation of strong, healthy identity formation and self-esteem.	This training provides information about why the involvement of foster caregivers with primary families is critical and it will enhance skills of foster caregivers in engaging primary families, managing conflict, diffusing issues, and developing strategies of support.
922-FF13-S2 The Caregiver's Voice: Being a Valuable Part of an Effective Child Welfare Team (6 hours)	941-FF14-S Fostering Self-Reliance in Children and Youth: Roots and Wings (6 hours)
This training will explore the roles and responsibilities of all members of the child welfare team. The training will enhance communication and collaboration skills of caregivers. Both caregivers and caseworkers are encouraged to attend this training.	This training presents methods to assess the needs of foster children and youth for developing independence. Specific strategies are presented to help prepare young children as well as teens for life as self-sufficient adults.

**PRESERVICE MADE YOU AWARE
FUNDAMENTALS HELPS YOU APPLY KNOWLEDGE**

For more information, contact Kelley Gruber at kgruber@ihs-trainet.com