



# CWTS Connection

Inspiring Excellence and Innovation through Learning



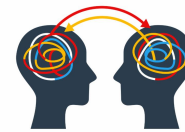
A monthly newsletter for Colorado's child welfare learning community

## October 2023

### LEARNER COVE

#### **The Caseworker Learning Exchange Is Here!**

Being a caseworker means managing a lot of information. It can feel overwhelming and isolating, especially if you're new to the work. Deepen your learning, share your successes and setbacks, and build a support network among your peers at the **Caseworker Learning Exchange!** Register for as many topic-focused sessions as you'd like, and set up your community of support for the next year.



#### **Plan Now for LMS Down Time: December 1–4**

The CWTS learning management system (LMS) is getting an update! You will be unable to access the LMS December 1–4, including account creation and profile updates, course registration and prework, WBTs, records of learning, and certificates. Mark your calendar for the down time, then join us back in the LMS on December 5!

#### **Join a Media Circle**

BE the change to disrupt racism and bias! Take a first step and join any of our media circles, where you'll read, watch, or listen to a media resource—from articles and poems to podcasts, songs, and TedTalks—then join small groups to engage in brave, thoughtful discussions that move us toward equity, in child welfare and the world. Join one of these upcoming topics:

- Are We Automating Racism?
- How We're Priming Some Kids for College—and Others for Prison
- Want a More Just World? Be an Unlikely Ally
- How Racism Makes Us Sick
- Dear Georgina
- To Transform Child Welfare, Take Race Out of the Equation
- The Story of a Parent's Transition and a Son's Redemption
- First Light

#### **Complete Our Survey, Receive Training Credit!**

The time has come again for the annual CWTS workforce survey! At CWTS, we care

about your experiences and we want to better understand your perspective on the work you do so that we continually design and deliver quality learning experiences to meet our community's unique needs. To that end, we are sharing a survey opportunity with you. In the next few weeks you may receive an email inviting you to participate in the survey from our evaluation manager, Heather Allan, asking a variety of questions about your job satisfaction, work experiences, and beliefs. We are offering **1 training credit hour** for your participation in this **confidential** survey, which will be added to your record of learning in the new year. Keep your eyes peeled and thank you in advance for your consideration!

### **Support Plan Toolkit Now Available!**

DCW recently released a [Support Plan Toolkit](#) to assist with practice improvements with support planning. Support planning is an integral part of Differential Response and is utilized in the absence of safety concerns. This helpful resource differentiates support plans, safety plans, and treatment plans. It also provides helpful instructions, tips, and templates.

## Looking for Learning?

[Find an Open Seat](#)

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# FOSTERING AND KINSHIP CONNECTION

## **Guilt and Grief in Foster Children**

Foster children and youth often experience a range of difficult emotions throughout placement—including guilt and grief. The feelings might originate during the family separation: feelings of abandonment, the loss of a loved one or stable home environment, or guilt for leaving their family or for not being able to provide for their family. Or the feelings might arise out of trauma or with the experience of being placed with strangers, from the difficulty of adjusting to a new environment to being overwhelmed by the expectations of their foster family. ([Read about guilt and grief](#))

[Find Caregiver Courses](#)

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# BREATHING SPACE

## **The Ripple Effect**

Bear with me, these two stories will make sense in a little while...

A few years after moving to my neighborhood, I kept noticing that a large pine tree had the perfect-looking space at its trunk for a little fairy garden. Soon after, I saw a little fairy door at a garden store and bought it for this space. That's it. I didn't mention it to anyone. ([Read about ripple effects](#))



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# MEANINGFUL MEDIA

## Webinars from the Human Rights Campaign

Check out Project THRIVE's upcoming fall webinars.

Thursday, November 16, 4–5 PM ET: [Act Up! Fight Back! Fight Hate! Youth Political Engagement](#)

Tuesday, December 5, 4–5 PM ET: [The Impact of Hate: The Effects of Anti-LGBTQ+ Legislation](#)

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## UPCOMING EVENTS/MEETINGS

**Thursday, October 19, 10:00–11:30 AM: [Caseworker Learning Exchange 1: Engagement Pitfalls](#)**

**Thursday, October 19, 10:30 AM–12 PM: Large-Size County Connection**

**Friday, October 20, 11 AM–12 PM: Medium-Size County Connection**

**Tuesday, November 14, 1–2:30 PM: [FEM Facilitator Learning Exchange 4: Challenges Related to ICWA: Are My Efforts Active?](#)**

**Wednesday, November 15, 1–2:30 PM: [Supervisor Learning Exchange 4: Tame Your Inner Advice Monster: Asking vs. Telling](#)**

**Friday, December 1–Monday, December 4: LMS Down Time**

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### Do Your Colleagues Know What You Know?

Make sure everyone on your team is in the loop and receiving the latest updates [by signing up for the CWTS newsletter](#).

[Contact Newsletter Editor](#)

