



CWTS Connection

Inspiring Excellence and Innovation through Learning



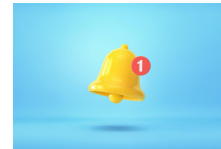
A monthly newsletter for Colorado's child welfare learning community

February 2024

LEARNER COVE

Have You Completed the Required WBT Educational Rights for Students in Foster Care?

Based on recent legislation, child welfare caseworkers and supervisors are required to take this new 1.5-hour WBT with guidance on their roles and responsibilities to improve educational stability for young people experiencing foster care. **Initial completion is required for all new or renewing certified child welfare caseworkers and supervisors by June 30, 2024. After initial completion, this course is required every two years to maintain certification as a caseworker or supervisor in Colorado.** [Review the operational memo](#) for more information or [complete the WBT today](#).



Combination Fundamentals Cohort Starts March 13

We know some learners are eager to attend in-person training, so we've added another combination Fundamentals cohort that will blend in-person and virtual seminars throughout the six weeks. [Cohort 21](#), which starts March 13, is virtual for weeks 1, 3, 5, and 6, with mandatory in-person seminars in Aurora during weeks 2 and 4. If registrants cannot or do not wish to attend an in-person offering, they must register for another cohort. We look forward to seeing you in person!

Avoid the Rush—Explore the Updated LMS Now!

The fiscal year will be over before we know it so we encourage you to log in now and explore the updated LMS. [Tutorials](#), [FAQs](#), and [other resources](#) can be accessed on the CWTS website, as well as the recently recorded [CWTS Learning Management System DCW Town Hall](#). Verify your training credits and certificates to avoid recertification delays.

Plans Change—Don't Forget to Cancel Seminar Registration

We know plans change and we're here to help. If you signed up for a seminar that you can no longer attend, it's easy to cancel your registration in the LMS with these [step-by-step instructions](#).

SUPERVISOR SPOT

What Do High-Functioning Teams Have in Common?

They are connected and engaged because psychological safety exists on their team. Supervisors are critical in building a team culture of belonging, diversity of thought, and innovation, where asking for help, taking risks, and learning from mistakes is not only encouraged but *expected!* Join the new course **Psychological Safety: The Secret of High-Functioning Teams** and you'll leave with an understanding of not only what psychological safety is and how to assess its level on your team, but also how to lead your team in building and repairing it.

Supervisors, a Resilient Team Starts with You!

Child welfare organizations everywhere are in an unprecedented time of burnout and turnover. Are you feeling it? Join **Building a Resilient Team: It Starts with You!** to learn simple behaviors, strategies, and tools to support your own well-being and explore how to incorporate them into the day-to-day work of your team in simple yet impactful ways.

New Supervisor Academy Overview for Managers and Directors

CWTS has been offering overview sessions of our preservice courses, and next up is New Supervisor Academy: Foundations in Leadership. If you are a manager, director, or practice coach, you're invited to attend the New Supervisor Academy Overview Session on March 19, 1–3 PM. Training credit hours are available for this session. If you have questions or would like more details, contact Holly Laydon, holly.laydon@cuanschutz.edu. Zoom link: <https://ucdenver.zoom.us/j/99902052823>, Meeting ID: 999 0205 2823.

FOSTERING AND KINSHIP CONNECTION

How to Talk with Your Kids About Politics and the Media

Kids are naturally curious and more in tune with their environments than adults give them credit for. "It's never too early to talk to your child about politics," says Hoyt Phillips, interim codirector of Teaching Tolerance, which provides anti-bias resources to educators who work with children. ([Read about talking with kids about politics and the media](#))

[Find Caregiver Courses](#)

BREATHING SPACE

Get Out of Your Own Way

I have been studying and teaching about self-care in the child welfare arena for a long time. It didn't take long to recognize that our field seems set up for making good self-care a difficult practice to master. First, the values and ideals that draw people to social work can sometimes become actual obstacles to self-care. And second, the tangible realities of the job are a true barrier we need to work with.

To my delight, I recently came across the following [assessment](#) that perfectly asks about both areas (mindset/values and nature of the job). Take a minute to check the obstacles to self-care that *you* regularly experience. ([Assess your obstacles to self-care](#))



HAVE YOU SEEN THIS

Record-Breaking Year for All Children – All Families

The All Children – All Families team has released their latest report, [The State of LGBTQ+ Inclusion in Child Welfare](#). Read about [ACAF's impact in 2023](#).

Join a Study on Animal Maltreatment in Child Welfare Cases

A research team at the University of Denver is investigating how to help human services workers when they see or suspect animal maltreatment or neglect while working with families in their homes. Human services workers 18 or older can assist by participating in a study: a 20-minute online survey (for which workers will receive a \$20 Amazon gift card) followed by an optional interview (with a \$40 Amazon gift card thank-you at its conclusion). [Read more about the study and complete the survey](#).

MEANINGFUL MEDIA

Webinars from the Human Rights Campaign

Check out Project THRIVE's upcoming spring webinars

Wednesday, March 27, 4–5:00 PM ET: [2023 Youth Report: LGBTQ+ Youth with Disabilities](#)

Thursday, April 25, 4–5:00 PM ET: [Support-Ed: Supporting Sex-Education Advocates](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS/MEETINGS

Tuesday, March 5, 10:30 AM–12:00 PM: [Caseworker Learning Exchange 4: Out of Sight, Out of Mind? Not Anymore: Engaging Incarcerated Parents](#)

Tuesday, March 12, 1–2:30 PM: [FEM Facilitator Learning Exchange 7: The Value of Urgency](#)

Tuesday, March 19, 1–3 PM: [New Supervisor Academy Overview Session \(Join the Zoom meeting\)](#)

Wednesday, March 20, 12–1:30 PM: [DR Learning Exchange 3: Pass It On: Lessons Learned](#)

Wednesday, March 20, 1–2:30 PM: [Supervisor Learning Exchange 8: Supporting New Staff Through Choose Your Own Trail and Practice Simulation](#)

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



