

Child Welfare Academy

Kin + Resource Caregiver Training Calendar – September through December 2026

Welcome!

Our training is provided for all Maryland Resource Parents and Kin Caregivers working directly through their County DSS. All trainings are FREE.

IMPORTANT POLICIES

ALL Trainings are virtual. In person events are noted.

Attendees must attend the entire class for credit.

Camera use is required if sharing a device with another person.

Due to sensitive content and confidentiality, please use headphones if near children.

REGISTER HERE – <https://theinstitute.ce21.com/>

Click JOIN the RPT (Resource Kinship) Group

New Accounts can take 2 business days to activate

September

Wed 9/9 6:00-8:00pm (2 hours)	Safe Dating and Healthy Relationships Openly and honestly discuss the traumas that teens, young adults and children face in regard to intimate partner violence, sexual assault and human trafficking. This real, unspoken and taboo violence that touches 1 in 3 females & 1 in 6 males in the United States. Discuss what violence is, how it can be possibly show signs to those near the victim and what resources are available to the victims, families and caregivers.
Tues 9/15 6:00-8:00pm (2 hours) (MEDICATION)	Medication Management - Being Truly Trauma Informed and Looking Beyond the Diagnosis Explore how trauma—not labels—shapes children’s behaviors and development. This training helps caregivers recognize trauma responses, understand limits of diagnoses, and use practical, healing-focused strategies, including medication basics. **This training meets the <u>Medication Requirement</u>.
Sat 9/19 9:00-11:00am (2 hours)	Navigating Special Education, IEP Process, and Challenges of the Educational System This training explores the 7 Core Issues of Adoption and Permanency, the impact of ambiguous grief, and the emotional shifts of changing family roles. Learn trauma-informed strategies, build resilience, and support both yourself and the children in your care.

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DAYTIME Fri 9/25 12:00-2:00pm (2 hours) (BEHAVIOR)	Attachment and Trauma - Helping Kids Heal through Reparative Relationships Learn an essential overview of what trauma is, how it affects the brain, and how it impacts attachment and social/emotional functioning. Reinterpret challenging behaviors as symptoms of trauma and learned methods of coping rather than defiance or manipulation. These strengths-based approaches to understanding trauma will serve as the framework for introducing parenting strategies that are supportive and encouraging. **This training meets the Behavior Requirement.
Mon 9/28 6:00-8:00pm (2 hours)	Digital Safety: Risks and Responses to Children Sharing Explicit Materials This session will help attendees define child sexual abuse material (CSAM) and understand relevant barriers, risks, rewards, and effective responses. In addition, attendees will review data on perceptions of normalcy and recent trends in online exploitation as well as consider the culture impact of technology on adolescents. Attendees will discuss best practices for engaging with adolescents through a harm reduction approach.

October

Thu 10/8 6:00-9:00pm (3 hours)	Supporting Children in Care through Parent Partnership This training will discuss the critical role of resource and kin providers in supporting parent partnership with families of origin. Guidance on Comfort Calls and Icebreakers and Continuum of Contact will be reviewed and utilized to promote and outline best practices for facilitating authentic engagement, partnership and teaming to build a positive, trusting co-parenting relationship. The benefits and challenges of parent partnership for the child, birth parents and resource parents will be discussed, and caregivers will leave with actionable strategies.
Wed 10/14 6:00-8:00pm (2 hours)	Internet Social Media Safety The internet is a growing part of our lives. Students are being exposed to a wide range of content as they work and play online. Learn about the importance of security settings on social media, how social media puts you at risk and how to protect yourself when using social networks.
Saturday 10/24 9:00am-3:00pm (5 training hours) BEHAVIOR MEDICATION	FALL RESOURCE PARENT VIRTUAL CONFERENCE Attendees will experience an informational keynote: <u><i>The Financial Side of Out-of-Home Care: Navigating Supports, Stipends, and Resources</i></u> Plus, an opportunity to attend two breakout sessions: <u>Options Include:</u> - Finding the "I" in the Storm - Medication Management - Children's Mental Health Defined (Medication) - Ambiguous Grief - Understanding and Addressing Grief of Non-Death Losses - Holding it Together - Disruption Prevention (Behavior) Register here – https://theinstitute.ce21.com/page/rpt-conference-registration-5739



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BLUE - Indicates training that meets the Discipline/Behavior Requirement
ORANGE - Indicates training that meets the Medication Management Requirement
^ Federally funded training from National Training and Development Curriculum (NTDC)
released to the public for free in 6/2022

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Wed 10/28 6:00-8:00pm (2 hours) (MEDICATION)	Helping Neurodivergent Children Succeed This training will help parents and caregivers better understand Autism Spectrum Disorder, ADHD, Learning Disabilities, Sensory Processing Issues, and other neurodivergent experiences.
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November

Thurs 11/5 6:00-8:00pm (2 hours) (MEDICATION)	Medication Management – Effective Mental Health Treatment through a Trauma-Informed Lens - Included will be a general review of diagnostic evaluations, outcomes and evidence-based care, informed consent/assent, treatment adherence, medication side effect and safety issues, and tips when treatment is not working. There will also be an overview of commonly prescribed psychiatric medication classes - stimulants, SSRI antidepressants, and SGA antipsychotic medications. This training will center around Trauma-informed treatment, recognizing trauma and its impact on children and families. Families will learn how to integrate trauma informed care in comprehensive treatment, and the importance and benefit of trauma psychosocial services. **This training meets the <u>Medication Requirement</u>.
Mon 11/9 6:00-8:00pm (2 hours)	Promoting and Practicing Body Safety in Your Home This training session is designed to equip caregivers with the necessary tools to create a secure environment for children both in the physical space of the home and the digital world. Participants will learn how to establish and enforce clear boundaries, communicate effectively about body safety, and implement supervision practices that respect the child's autonomy while keeping them safe. Training will offer practical strategies to address them, fostering a culture of safety and respect.
Sat 11/14 9:00-11:00am (2 hours)	Creating Teachable Moments Learn how to use a two-part process to teach life skills. Part one, share your knowledge about and techniques for planning and decision-making; part two, provide the youth with opportunities to practice!
Tues 11/17 6:00-8:00pm (2 hours) (BEHAVIOR)	How to Parent the Wounded Child Caregivers will learn how early childhood harm and neglect from trusted adults impact a child's brain development and ability to regulate emotions. Participants will come away with a greater appreciation for their own capacity to parent therapeutically and to help the children in their care heal. **This training meets the <u>Behavior Requirement</u>.

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December

Tues 12/1 6:00-8:00pm (2 hours)	A Resource and Kin Caregiver Survival Guide – Insights for Navigating Trauma, Birth Parents, and an Agency - We will explore the inherent challenges of the foster parent experience, which includes agency and social worker involvement, birth family involvement, and the traumatizing effects of parenting a child who's been traumatized.
Sat 12/5 9:00-11:00am (2 hours) MEDICATION	Medication Management - Being Truly Trauma Informed and Looking Beyond the Diagnosis Explore how trauma—not labels—shapes children’s behaviors and development. This training helps caregivers recognize trauma responses, understand limits of diagnoses, and use practical, healing-focused strategies, including medication basics. **This training meets the <u>Medication Requirement</u>.
Thurs 12/10 6:00-8:00pm (2 hours)	Managing Placement Transitions Caregivers will learn how to effectively support children in both planned and unplanned placement transitions. Discussions will include both into/and out of the foster/adoptive home. Helping children feel welcome and ways of staying connected will be discussed.
Tues 12/15 6:00-8:00pm (2 hours) (BEHAVIOR)	Connection Over Correction – Trauma Informed Parents for Teens and Young Adults Through a trauma-informed lens, This training will explore how to build trust with youth who may struggle with authority, emotional regulation, or forming healthy relationships. Emphasis will be placed on co-regulation as a foundation for emotional growth and behavior change, and how to create a sense of safety that supports healing and long-term resilience. **This training meets the <u>Behavior Requirement</u>.
<u>DAYTIME</u> Fri 12/18 11:00am-1:00pm (2 hours)	Understanding the Association Between Foster Care & Human Trafficking Gain a better understanding of what human trafficking is, the basics of domestic minor sex trafficking and forced labor trafficking, how to better ID potential trafficking victims, the laws and referral mechanisms, myths, and misconceptions about sex trafficking, and much more.

Questions? Contact Laura Teetermoran

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