



# Engaging Families for Permanency

With Mardi Louisell, MSW  
& Karen McClure

This course discusses strategies for engaging known and unknown family members and important adults in the course of finding permanency for children and youth. During the training, participants will learn about the philosophy and values underlying permanency practice, including permanency as a youth-centered process that involves finding family permanency and finding other connections; engaging families in the search for the child/youth's permanency; and working with families to help the youth deal with grief and loss. We will discuss how to hold a youth permanency team meetings with family and professionals and how to set timelines for steps towards permanency. The workshop will use lecture, case studies, small group interaction and participants' cases. Issues regarding race, culture, sexual orientation, gender identity and other areas important to a child or youth are integrated into the training.

**Target Audience:** This training is appropriate for all social workers and supervisors as they seek to find permanency for children and youth.

## Outcome Objectives

- Identify effective strategies for engaging the family in the search for permanency for a child or youth. Includes effective strategies for engaging and preparing professionals.
- Identify socioeconomic, cultural and ethnic differences, and sexual orientation and gender identify that may impact engaging the family.
- Recognize and review how confidentiality impacts work with the family.
- Identify steps in preparing for a relative's contact with a child/youth and debriefing.
- Identify steps in working with the family as they join the child/youth's permanency team.
- Identify ways in which relatives/important persons can help the child/youth with grief and loss.
- Determine next steps to engage a family member or important person on one case for each participant.
- Identify members of youth permanency teams on three cases of each participant.

**MARCH 10, 2010**  
**9:00am to 12:00pm**  
Registration at 8:30am

**BAY AREA ACADEMY**  
**2201 BROADWAY \*\*\* SUITE 220**  
**(ENTRANCE ON 22<sup>ND</sup> STREET)**  
**OAKLAND, CA 94612**  
Click [HERE](#) for directions.

*Please note: In order to receive credit for completion of this training and to receive CEUs, you must arrive on time and complete the entire session. You must provide your license # when signing in to receive CEU or BRN credit.*

## INVITED COUNTIES:

Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Monterey, Napa, San Benito, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Solano, Sonoma

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE:** Please contact your County Training Manager by **February 24<sup>th</sup>** to request registration.

**Mardi Louisell, MSW, MA**, is a permanency consultant and trainer, who has worked in CW as a SW, supervisor, and trainer for 30 years.

**Karen McClure, MSW**, a Social Worker IV for Sonoma County CFS since 1989, has worked in FR, PP and adoptions. She is the lifelong connections specialist for Sonoma County.

3 CEUs will be offered to LCSWs and LMFTs. PCE#1854. Provider approved by the Board of Registered Nursing, Provider #CEP 13140, for 3 Contact Hours. No charge for training.

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