

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

HANDOUT 1

Course Title: *Working with Self-neglecting Clients*

Outline of Training:

In this interactive and thought provoking introductory training, new APS workers and their allied partners will learn the definition of self neglect, how prevalent it is in our society and the risk factors and indicators to watch for when assessing a case. They will learn how to access self neglect across five domains (medical, psychological, environmental, financial and social). They will be exposed to tools used to evaluate self neglect cases and learn about promising methods to work with self neglecting adult. They will learn how to develop interventions, how to document a self neglect case and what agencies they might want to partner with to work these cases.

The following instructional strategies are used: lecture segments; interactive activities/exercises (e.g. small group discussion, case studies); question/answer periods; PowerPoint slides; participant guide (encourages self-questioning and interaction with the content information); embedded evaluation to assess training content and process; and transfer of learning activity to access knowledge and skill acquisition and how these translate into practice in the field.

Course Requirements:

Please note that training participants are expected to participate in a variety of in-class and post-training evaluation activities. These activities are designed to enhance the learning experience and reinforce the skill acquisition of training participants as well as determine the overall effectiveness of the trainings.

An executive summary of each training and directions for post-training evaluation activities will be provided to training participants and their supervisors. Certificates of course completion will be awarded upon completion of ALL course activities.

Target Audience:

This course is designed for new APS social workers as well as Vulnerable Adult Abuse partners (e.g. conservatorship investigators, workers in the aging and disability networks, law enforcement). This training is also appropriate for senior staff that require knowledge and/or skills review.

Outcome Objectives for Participants:

Learning goals – Upon completion of this training session, participants will be able to:

1. Define self-neglect, its prevalence, risk factors, and indicators
2. Assess self-neglect in the 5 domains
3. Describe risk assessment tools used for evaluating self-neglect
4. Describe promising methods for working with self-neglecting adults, including
 - a. Motivational interviewing
 - b. Harm reduction
 - c. Hoarding treatment
5. Develop safety and risk reduction interventions for self-neglecting adults

6. Elements to document in self-neglect cases
7. Identify community partners in self-neglect cases

Transfer of Learning: *Ways supervisors can support the transfer of learning from the training room to on the job.*

BEFORE the training

Supervisors can encourage line staff to attend the training and help them identify particular strengths and/or challenges that they have had in developing safety plans for victims in the past. Training participants can share these experiences during training.

AFTER the training

Supervisors can read the training executive summary and instructions for out-of-class transfer of learning activity. Supervisor and training participant will then schedule a time to complete the activity together – at this point the trainees can share what specific skills they obtained from the training. If further staff involvement is available, trainees may present an overview of what was learned to other staff members to encourage collaboration and a culture of learning.