

### Description

During this highly engaging and captivating virtual, instructor-led skill building session, participants will review characteristics of common mental health disorders to better understand challenges and problem solve solutions when working with clients with mental illness. While exploring the stereotypes and stigmas surrounding mental illness, participants will develop empathy which will help the APS worker enhance rapport building skills and understanding to ensure a thorough service plan is created. Participants will work through a powerful thought disorder simulation, allowing them to “walk in the shoes” of someone who is living with untreated mental illness. This skill based session provides participants a safe place to explore working through a suicide risk assessment in order to confidently assess for suicide risk when working in the field.

### Dates and Times

DATE: December 7, 2021  
TIME: 8:30 AM- 12 PM  
Platform: ZOOM

---

DATE: December 9, 2021  
TIME: 8:30 AM- 12 PM  
Platform: ZOOM

### Learning Objectives

By the end of this training, participants will be able to:

1. Identify personal and cultural experiences which influence working with clients with mental illness.
2. Describe your experience with a thought disorder simulation.
3. Articulate the rationale for various steps of an investigation.
4. Identify and practice elements of a suicide risk assessment.

### Course Requirements

This instructor-led skill-building session was developed as a blended model, designed to be used to practice and reinforce the skills and information presented in the Mental Health in APS Practice eLearning. To receive completion credit, participants must complete the [Mental Health in APS Practice eLearning](#) within 3 months of attending the virtual instructor-led skill building session. If participants have completed the eLearning prior to September 1, 2021, it is recommended they complete the course again to receive full credit for the training.

### Intended Audience

This is a NAPSA Core Module (Module 6) and intended audience is new line staff, or experienced staff who would like a refresher.

### Registration

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE: November 22, 2021**

**\*Zoom link will be sent with registration confirmation\***

### Presenter

**Jessica E. Burke, MPA:** Jessica joined the Riverside County Department of Public Social Services as a Staff Development Officer for the Adult Services Division in 2017. She has been in the field of Social Work for over twelve years, specifically within the Adult Services Division. Jessica’s professional career began with the In Home Support Services (IHSS) and Elderly/Dependent Adult Abuse programs in spring of 2005. Jessica started at the Adult Services division as a social worker performing IHSS assessments and intakes. Jessica went on to conduct elder abuse investigations, which has been her focus for the past years. Jessica has been part of the death review team, the Elder Abuse forensic Center, and a lead in investigating high profile cases. Jessica was able to guest train for Riverside County’s SPSS Adult Services Divisions inductions for many years in which she recognized her passion to not only teach, but also share her knowledge of social worker practice in operations.

### Continuing Education

This course meets the qualifications for continuing education credits for LMFTs, LCSWs, LPCCs, and/or LEPs as required by the California Board of Behavioral Science for a total of 5.5 continuing credits. The Academy is approved by the California Association of Marriage and Family Therapists to sponsor continuing education for LMFTs, LCSWs, LPCCs and LEPs, Provider #91928. The Academy is approved by the California Board of Registered Nursing, Provider # BRN CEP15014. The Academy maintains responsibility for this program and its content. Certificates will be available for download 5-7 business days after course completion. Click here for information on how to [obtain CE Certificates](#).