Dynamics of Abusive Relationships

In this thought provoking and engaging training, participants will focus on power and control as the underlying dynamics of abusive relationships. During the training, participants will learn various tactics abusers use, explore many reasons and situations where someone may feel they cannot or will not leave an abusive relationship and work through an experiential exercise to help develop empathy and awareness of various outcomes and resources when working with people who are being abused. Participants will complete numerous activities to apply content to field work, while keeping abuse dynamics in mind. This training has been designed using Trauma-Informed Practice.

The purpose of this training is to enable Adult Protective Services (APS) professionals to understand the dynamics of abusive relationships in order to enhance victim safety. This training is Module 8 of the NAPSA Core Competency Curriculum.

Learning Objectives

After completion of this training, participants will be able to:

- Define abusive relationships in older adults and adults with disabilities as it applies to APS
- Identify the underlying dynamics of abusive relationships
- Clarify APS’ role and how abusive relationship dynamics might inform case interventions
- Identify why some adults may choose to continue the relationship with the abuser

Course Requirements

- Participants should be aware that some content in the training may be activating and appropriate resources should be available.

VIRTUAL EVENTS

This 2-part course will be conducted remotely through Zoom and will be offered twice on the following dates:

Cohort 1:
Dates: September 15 (part 1) and September 22, 2022 (part 2)
Time: 8:30 am – 12:00 pm

Cohort 2:
Dates: September 29 (part 1) and October 6, 2022 (part 2)
Time: 8:30 am – 12:00 pm

The registration due date for this training is August 29, 2022
*Zoom link will be sent with registration confirmation

AUDIENCE

This training is intended for new APS professionals or those that could benefit from a refresher on the dynamics of abusive relationships.

Visit us at theacademy.sdsu.edu.
Meet the Trainers

Amy Waszak, MA Counseling, LMFT

Amy is a Curriculum Development Specialist for the Adult Protective Services Workforce Innovations (APSWI) program. APSWI provides competency-based multidisciplinary training to Adult Protective Services professionals and their partners. Amy has 23 years experience with Adult Protective Services (APS) for the County of San Diego, both as a Case Manager and Supervisor, with an emphasis on training and coaching. Amy has experience in Social Services working with both elderly and dependent adults. As a licensed mental health clinician, she developed and grew trauma informed practices in her work with APS and as a therapist for military veterans. Amy has served as a Clinical Supervisor for APS staff pursuing professional licensure. She has also worked periodically as a trainer for APSWI, doing both in-person and virtual instructor led trainings for APS staff in several regions of Southern California. Amy has also been involved with the APSWI Supervisor Curriculum Advisory Committee.

Katherine (Kat) Preston-Wager, BA

Kat is a Curriculum Development Specialist for APS Workforce Innovations (APSWI), developing curricula and workforce development resources to strengthen APS programs across the nation, paying close attention to trauma-informed and equitable training. She is passionate about ensuring that those who make up the APS workforce have the tools, confidence, and practice they need to allow them to do their best work. Kat has over 15 years of experience working with survivors of sexual assault and intimate partner violence with specialized skills in crisis intervention, motivational interviewing, advocacy, case management and facilitation. Kat is a former Sexual Assault Response Coordinator for the Department of the Navy and provided case management for survivors of sexual assault. She began her career as a Prevention Educator for a Rape Crisis and Domestic Violence Agency focusing closely on teen relationship abuse prevention.

Virtual Training Protocol

- Download or update the most recent version of Zoom
- Always use a headset, microphone, and have camera on when possible
- Use "Computer Audio" for optimal experience
- Consider logging in 10 minutes early to troubleshoot tech challenges
- Limit distractions, prepare your workspace, find comfortable seating

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 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. **There is no cost for CEs.** Click here for information on how to [obtain CE Certificates](#).