

**DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES
ACADEMY FOR COMMUNITY
PARTNERS**



**SUMMER CATALOG
JULY - SEPTEMBER 2026**



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GENERAL INFORMATION

Logging on to the Webinar

Microsoft Teams and Zoom will be utilized to conduct the DCF webinars.

When you register, you will receive an automatic confirmation email with the link for the webinar.

Certificate Requirements

The number of credits awarded by the NASW for continuing education purposes are identified within the course description. In situations where applications are in process, but not yet approved by the NASW, the notation is 'pending'.

Non-DCF staff must indicate to the trainer that they are interested in the CEU hours and certificates will be emailed to you within 45 days after the training is complete.

For non-CEU courses, a certificate of completion is offered to Non-DCF Staff after the completion of the course upon request.

[Click To Complete the CEC Certificate Request Form](#)

Attendance

*TRAINING recommended for parents are identified by asterisks****

Participants' Responsibility

It is expected that participants will demonstrate dependability by logging onto training on time, returning from breaks on time, and completing the full training class. Tardiness shall only be excused in the event of an emergency with approval from supervisory staff.

Academy Responsibility

The Academy reserves the right to:

- deny admission to a participant who is late for a training by removing this participant from the classroom or webinar. If a CWT does remove a participant, the CWT will notify that participant's supervisor regarding this event by the end of the day.
- request participants to turn on their web camera.
- mark a participant "unsuccessful" if they leave a training early, log out of the webinar early without permission or appear to not be actively involved in the webinar session.

Parking DCF Academy – Central Office, Hartford Location

Unless specifically notified by the AWD, all people attending training at the DCF Academy in Hartford must park in the Hudson Street Parking.

Parking SOTA Academy – 1 Long Wharf, New Haven Location

Unless specifically notified by the AWD, all people attending training at the SOTA Academy in New Haven can park in the lot on site in any unmarked spots.

Parking CJTS- 1225 Silver Street, Middletown Location

Proceed down Silver Street and pass the main entrance of CJTS. Take your next right turn- Silvermine Road. This is an unpaved road that will take you towards the back entrance of the campus. Make your next right onto O'Brien Drive or follow the "Receiving" sign. Enter through the gate on your right. The Academy utilizes building number 8 for trainings. Building 8 is located behind Building 4, which is the first building you will pass on your right after entering the CJTS grounds. It is a long building, accessed by the drive to the left of building 4. Participants are to park on the grounds in one of the paved areas along the circular drive.

Entrance to the Building

People entering all training locations must be prepared to show ID upon request at the Central Office, SOTA and CJTS locations.

Disability Accommodations

If you need ADA Accommodations, please notify the Human Resources Division in writing. The Human Resources Division must have at least a 24-hour notice.

JULY IN-SERVICE COURSES

IMMIGRATION PRACTICE AT DCF

DCF serves all families in Connecticut, regardless of immigration status. The foundation of DCF's immigration policy is that DCF never reports immigration status to the federal government (Immigration and Customs Enforcement, aka ICE). In this three-hour virtual training, participants will review and receive information on DCF Policy 21-13, Immigration. In addition, immigration terms will be defined, immigration data will be analyzed, and immigration law will be discussed. Immigration and issues related to social work practice with our transitional aged youth population and unaccompanied minors will be reviewed. We will also consider the impact of complex trauma on immigrant children and their families, and how professionals might develop trauma-sensitive practices with immigrants. Finally, we will talk about benefits, services, current challenges, and new developments within the immigrant population of Connecticut.

Date: 7-14-26

Time: 9am- 12pm

Trainer(s): Jennifer Avenia

Location: Virtual

Continuing Education Credits (CEC'S): 3 + CC

[CLICK TO REGISTER FOR IMMIGRATION PRACTICE](#)

CPR/AED RE-CERTIFICATION

Refresh and fine tune your existing skills in providing quality chest compressions and rescue breaths for an unresponsive person, proper use of the AED and provide care for a choking adult, child or infant.

Date: 7-21-26

Time(s): 9am- 12pm or 1pm- 4pm

Trainers: Stephanie Carvalho, Greg Curtiss

Location Connecticut Juvenile Training School (CJTS)

Continuing Education Credits (CEC'S): None

[CLICK TO REGISTER FOR CPR/AED RECERTIFICATION](#)

MINDFULNESS: THE PRACTICE OF BEING PRESENT

From Merriam Webster Dictionary: Mindfulness- "the practice of maintaining a nonjudgmental state of heightened or complete awareness of one's thoughts, emotions, or experiences on a moment-to-moment basis"

In this course, we will explore the definition of mindfulness and delve into the benefits of developing a mindfulness practice. We will learn about the Buddhist roots of mindfulness and how it became a secular wellness strategy in the United States. In this course, we will explore the use of mindfulness in therapeutic modalities. We will also learn and practice several different mindfulness activities that can be easily incorporated into our busy and stressful DCF lives!

Date: 7-31-26

Time(s) 9am- 12pm

Trainers: Dawn Jackle, Stephanie Carvalho

Location Virtual

Continuing Education Credits (CEC'S): 3

[CLICK TO REGISTER FOR MINDFULNESS](#)

AUGUST IN-SERVICE COURSES

MICRO LEARNING LAB: ENGAGING ADOLESCENTS FATHERS IN CHILD PROTECTION PRACTICE

Adolescent fathers involved in the child protection system are often under-identified, under-engaged, and face unique developmental, systemic, and cultural barriers. This training equips CT DCF social workers with practical, trauma-informed, and father-inclusive strategies to effectively identify, engage, and support young fathers in CPS cases.

Date: 8-7-26

Time(s): 9am- 10:30am

Trainers: Stephanie Carvalho, Sarah Clark

Location: Virtual

Continuing Education Credits (CEC'S): Pending

[CLICK TO REGISTER FOR MLL ENGAGING ADOLESCENT FATHERS](#)

IMMIGRATION PRACTICE AT DCF

DCF serves all families in Connecticut, regardless of immigration status. The foundation of DCF's immigration policy is that DCF never reports immigration status to the federal government (Immigration and Customs Enforcement, aka ICE). In this three-hour virtual training, participants will review and receive information on DCF Policy 21-13, Immigration. In addition, immigration terms will be defined, immigration data will be analyzed, and immigration law will be discussed. Immigration and issues related to social work practice with our transitional aged youth population and unaccompanied minors will be reviewed. We will also consider the impact of complex trauma on immigrant children and their families, and how professionals might develop trauma-sensitive practices with immigrants. Finally, we will talk about benefits, services, current challenges, and new developments within the immigrant population of Connecticut.

Date: 8-11-26

Time: 9am- 12pm

Trainer(s): Jennifer Avenia

Location: Virtual

Continuing Education Credits (CEC'S): 3 + CC

[CLICK TO REGISTER FOR IMMIGRATION PRACTICE](#)

SEPTEMBER IN-SERVICE COURSES

IMMIGRATION PRACTICE AT DCF

DCF serves all families in Connecticut, regardless of immigration status. The foundation of DCF's immigration policy is that DCF never reports immigration status to the federal government (Immigration and Customs Enforcement, aka ICE). In this three-hour virtual training, participants will review and receive information on DCF Policy 21-13, Immigration. In addition, immigration terms will be defined, immigration data will be analyzed, and immigration law will be discussed. Immigration and issues related to social work practice with our transitional aged youth population and unaccompanied minors will be reviewed. We will also consider the impact of complex trauma on immigrant children and their families, and how professionals might develop trauma-sensitive practices with immigrants. Finally, we will talk about benefits, services, current challenges, and new developments within the immigrant population of Connecticut.

Date: 9-8-26

Time: 9am- 12pm

Trainer(s): Jennifer Avenia

Location: Virtual

Continuing Education Credits (CEC'S): 3 + CC

[CLICK TO REGISTER FOR IMMIGRATION PRACTICE](#)

MOTIVATIONAL INTERVIEWING SKILLS THAT PROMOTE PEER EMPOWERMENT

Persuasion vs. Empowerment! This motivational interview training covers the skills and techniques that give peers, in recovery the tools and confidence to make their own healthy choices. Participants will be able to define motivational interviewing and gain an understanding of dynamic techniques such as reflective listening, open-ended, and meaningful questions, and the guiding principles of motivational interviewing. Participants also will be able to describe the spirit of motivational interviewing and practice techniques to support peers through change.

Date: 9-17-26

Time: 9am- 4pm

Trainer(s): Eileen Doyle- FVR

Location: Central Office

Continuing Education Credits (CEC'S): 6

[CLICK TO REGISTER FOR MOTIVATIONAL INTERVIEWING](#)

THE TRAUMA OF HOMELESSNESS: THE IMPACT ON VERY YOUNG CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

This training opportunity is for individuals who are seeking to broaden their knowledge on the topic of the impact of trauma and homelessness in early childhood.

- Understand the Relationship Between Homelessness & Trauma
- Learn How Homelessness Impacts Attachment Relationships, Early Development & Learning
- Understand the Definition of Homelessness & the Basics of the McKinney Vento Law
- Learn Successful Strategies for Engaging Families

Date: 9-22-26

Time(s) 1pm- 4pm

Trainers: Anne Giordano

Location Virtual

Continuing Education Credits (CEC'S): None

[CLICK TO REGISTER FOR THE TRAUMA OF HOMELESSNESS](#)

INTERSECTIONALITY: DISSECTING SOCIAL IDENTITY TO PRODUCE BETTER OUTCOMES FOR FAMILIES

This training aims to provide participants with a deep understanding of intersectionality, its relevance in child protection, and practical strategies for incorporating intersectional perspectives into their work. It combines theoretical knowledge with interactive activities, case studies, and discussions to create a well-rounded and impactful learning experience. In addition, staff will be provided with essential information that is needed when it comes to creating a diverse and inclusive workplace.

Date: 9-29-26

Time(s) 9am- 4pm

Trainers: D'Oyen Barrett, Greg Curtiss

Location Central Office

Continuing Education Credits (CEC'S): 6

[CLICK TO REGISTER FOR INTERSECTIONALITY](#)

TEAM BUILDING, COACHING, AND GROUP SUPERVISION

The Academy can offer professional coaching, integrated group supervision and team building. These sessions explore the essentials that team members and leaders need to understand for team success. Included in the session is discussion around the four stages of team development and how to understand and deal with different personalities on the team. Additionally, small group work identifies strengths and needs of the team. The results are developed into a plan of action and commitment based on personal ownership. **To inquire about these sessions, please contact your office Academy Coach listed below.**

HOME BASE- VETERAN AND FAMILY CARE TRAINING

The HOME BASE-Veteran and Family Care- The Training Institute offers NASW certified asynchronous training at no charge to clinicians, social workers, health care professionals and community members throughout New England. These trainings also meet the NASW veteran service continuing education requirement.

Webinars are about one hour and range on all different topics, such as, Military Culture, PTSD, Substance Use and Mental Health, Trauma Treatment and Traumatic Brain Injury.

To access training, please visit the [Home Base Training Institute, click here](#). Click on the "Resources" tab. Then click on "The Training Institute at Home Base" tab. Scroll down and select a topic you would like to learn more about. Once you select a training course, you will need to create a Psychiatry Academy account. When your account is activated, you will be allowed to register and view the training.

After the training, you will be able to download your CEC Certificate.

For any other questions regarding how to access these courses, please email educationathomebase@mgb.org

ASYNCHRONOUS TRAININGS

A UNIFIED APPROACH: UNDERSTANDING AND COLLABORATING WITH ADULT PROBATION

Description: This course enhances the understanding of Adult Probation operations and promotes effective collaboration between probation services and other agencies. Participants will learn about the structure and responsibilities of adult probation, risk-based supervision strategies, and how probation addresses noncompliance. The course provides practical insights on how to communicate with probation officers, ensuring child safety and improved case outcomes. Through interactive scenarios and resources, participants will align goals and strengthen partnerships for shared clients. By the end of the course, participants will understand more about Adult Probation and how we can adopt a unified approach to better client outcomes.

[CLICK TO BEGIN THE OVERVIEW OF A UNIFIED APPROACH Online Training](#)

REASONABLE PRUDENT PARENT-STANDARD (RPPS) ON-LINE TRAINING

This asynchronous training will discuss the Reasonable and Prudent Parent Standard (RPPS). RPPS is defined as the standard characterized by careful and sensible parental decisions that maintain the health, safety and best interest of a child. Normal childhood activities are defined as extracurricular, enrichment, and social activities.

[CLICK TO BEGIN THE RPPS Online Training](#)

THIS IS DCF

This web-based course provides an overview of the Department of Children and Families, designed to educate new hires, community members, parents and youth on the agency's mission, statutory mandates and responsibilities. Participants will gain insight into the role of DCF in supporting families, ensuring child welfare, and fostering resilience in children. The training will also cover what families can expect when interacting with DCF, equipping attendees with essential knowledge to help navigate and engage with the system effectively.

[CLICK TO BEGIN THIS IS DCF Online Training](#)

ABCD CHILD SAFETY PRACTICE MODEL

This course will orient participants to the ABCD Child Safety Practice Model, and how to utilize the associated Discussion Guides and Practice Profiles. Upon completion of the course, participants will understand the primary objectives of the model, be able to identify the eight guiding practice commitments, and understand the A-B-C-D paradigm and other key features. Recorded video, narrated power point, discussion questions, case vignettes, and structured transfer of learning activities will be utilized to engage participants and develop skills.

[CLICK TO BEGIN THE ABCD PRACTICE MODEL Online Training](#)

MEET THE ACADEMY'S STAFF



Tracy Davis, Director, LMSW, University of Connecticut School of Social Work

Tracy Davis is the Director of the Academy for Workforce Development at the Connecticut Department of Children and Families. She has 32 years of experience working in the field of Child Protection that has included direct service, supervision, management, and leadership roles. She has successfully implemented and sustained nationally recognized and innovative workforce development initiatives during her tenure at The Academy for Workforce Development. As the Director, she works collaboratively with the agency workforce and external partners to develop and implement training products that enhance skills and increase the knowledge base of staff and providers. In addition, Tracy has developed strong university and college partnerships to

offer internship opportunities to MSW and BSW students, strengthening their path to employment within the agency.

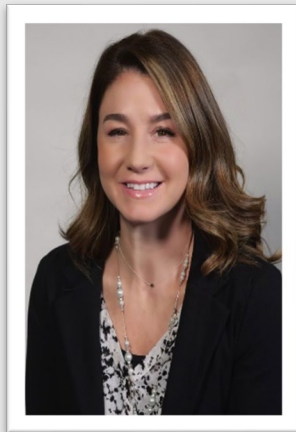
Tracy holds a bachelor's degree in human development and family relations and a master's in social work, both from the University of Connecticut. She also has over 15 years' experience as an Adjunct Professor at The University of Bridgeport, Southern Connecticut State University, and Sacred Heart University, teaching courses on human oppression and diversity, group work, crisis management, and field practicum. Her academic experience has allowed her to bring awareness of Child Welfare to traditional and non-traditional students, increasing their knowledge and fostering an interest in discipline.

Tracy has been a member of the National Staff Development and Training Association (NSDTA) Executive Advisory Council since 2019, contributing to subcommittees on Engagement, Scholarship, and Conference Planning, and she currently serves as Co-Chair. In addition to her leadership and training expertise, her work has been published in *Policy & Practice* (APHSA's Journal) and *Human Service Organizations: Management, Leadership & Governance*, the official journal of the Network for Social Work Management. She is also the host of *Real Talk: A Podcast on Well-Being*, reflecting her commitment to supporting the workforce and promoting professional wellness.



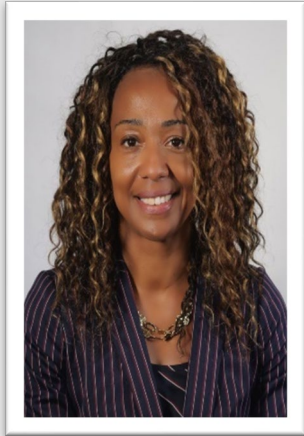
Kristine Rivera, Assistant Director, LCSW, University of Connecticut School of Social Work

Kristine has been with DCF since November 2006. She left for a period to complete her master's degree in social work and returned to the Department in August 2008. As a Social Worker she worked in Ongoing Services and Adolescent Mental Health in the New Britain Area Office. She was promoted to Social Work Supervisor in June 2014. Kristine was a Training Supervisor in the New Britain Area Office until October 2016 when she joined the Academy for Workforce Development as a Child Welfare Trainer. In March 2021, Kristine became a program supervisor overseeing the Pre-Service Training and Internship programs. She was promoted to Assistant Director in November 2022. Kristine is also an Adjunct Professor in the undergraduate social work program at Central Connecticut State University. She has been an adjunct there since fall 2009.



Jennifer Rondini-Zayas, Child Welfare Program Supervisor, LMSW, Springfield College

Jennifer began her employment for the Department of Children and Families in the Waterbury Area Office in September of 2005. As a Social Worker, she gained three years' experience with Ongoing Services before transitioning to the Adolescent Unit. In June 2014, Jennifer became a Social Work Supervisor for the Adolescent Unit. Jennifer joined the DCF Academy for Workforce Development in June of 2016 as a Child Welfare Trainer. In March 2020, Jennifer was promoted as a Program Supervisor for the Academy for Workforce Development.



Carleen Chisholm, Child Welfare, Program Supervisor, MSW. University of Connecticut.

Carleen began her career with the Department of Children and Families as a Social Worker in 2003 at the New Britain Area Office. In this role, Carleen acquired three years' experience with Ongoing Services before transitioning to the Intake Unit. In June 2008, Carleen was promoted to a Social Work Supervisor, where she led staff in the Treatment/Ongoing, Training and Mental Health/Adolescent units, as well as held a position as a Quality Assurance Case Reviewer Supervisor. In March 2021, Carleen was promoted to CPS Program Supervisor in the Waterbury Area Office, where she managed, Ongoing Services, Probate, and a Training Unit. She also served as a Regional QPI Co-Chairperson and QPI Champion. Carleen

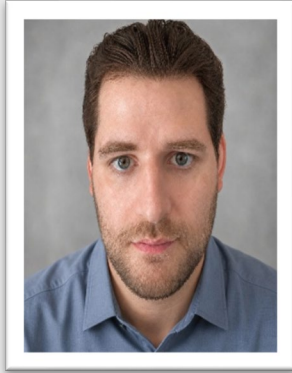
Joined the DCF Academy for Workforce Development in September of 2022.



Alexa Romer, Child Welfare, Program Supervisor, LMSW. Springfield College

Alexa began her career with the Department of Children and Families as a Social Worker Trainee in 1999 at the Hartford Area Office. In this role, Alexa acquired some years' experience with Ongoing Services before transitioning to the Intake Unit. In 2007, Alexa was promoted to a Social Work Supervisor position, where she led staff in the Treatment/Ongoing, Training Sexual Abuse, Adolescent, and Permanency units. She also held a position as a Quality Assurance Case Reviewer Supervisor. In July 2020, Alexa was promoted to CPS Program Supervisor in the New Britain Area Office, where she managed Intake and ongoing services. She also served as a Regional Racial Justice Co Lead. Alexa joined the DCF Academy for Workforce

Development in February 2024.



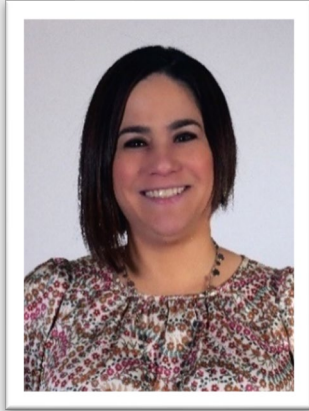
Sean Tenney, Workforce Development Operations Management

Sean began working with the Department of Children and Families in April 2023 as a Business Analyst consultant and, in 2025, became Operations Manager with the Academy for Workforce Development. He oversees statewide technologies, systems, and compliance programs, leads data and reporting initiatives to improve efficiency and accountability, and supports staff in building technology skills through targeted training. With a background in instructional design, IT management, and business consulting, Sean brings a collaborative and innovative approach to strengthening workforce development and advancing DCF's mission.



Lindy O'Brien, Training Program Coordinator

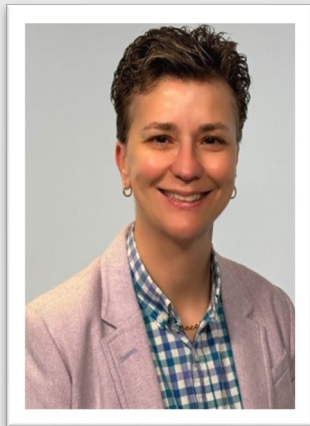
Lindy joined the DCF Academy for Workforce Development in July 2021, after working in post-secondary education for 23 years. During that time, her primary focus was on adult learning. Beginning as an instructor in 1998 for a medical assisting program, she grew her instructional and administrative skills, becoming the Campus Director of Operations and Education. In this position, Lindy was responsible for the education of over 500 students, as well as staff training and development. Lindy brings with her an expertise of adult learning and teaching style.



Stephanie Carvalho, Child Welfare Trainer, LMSW. BS in Psychology from Sacred Heart University and a MSW from Springfield College

Stephanie was hired by the Department in 2005. Stephanie began working in the New Britain Office where she was quickly transitioned into the role of a Medically Complex worker until 2008. Stephanie transferred to the Hartford Office until 2017 when she was promoted to Social Work Supervisor in the Manchester Office. During her time in the Hartford Office, Stephanie worked in the areas of medically complex, permanency, and intake. As a Social Work Supervisor in Manchester, Stephanie was a training supervisor and continued her participation in the HART team.

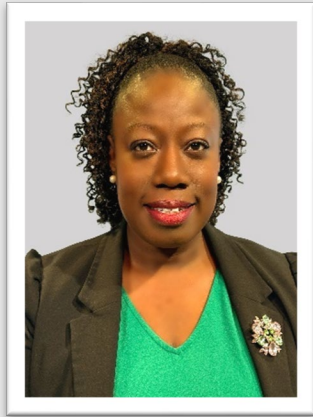
Stephanie returned to the Hartford Office in 2020 where she supervised a Sexual Abuse unit. Stephanie transitioned to the Academy in November 2023.



Aurora Contrino, Child Welfare Trainer, M.A. in Clinical Psychology from American International College. Forensic Psychology, American International College

Aurora began her career with the Department of Children and Families as a Social Worker in 2003. Throughout her time as a Social Worker, Aurora gained experience in ongoing services and specialty units such as the mental health unit. Aurora transitioned to investigations in 2006. In 2009 Aurora was promoted to Social Work Supervisor overseeing an ongoing unit. In 2012, Aurora began supervising intake staff until 2018. From 2018-2022, Aurora was a supervisor in the Administrative Case Review Division and then transitioned back to child protective services where I supervised an ongoing unit. In 2016, Aurora completed the Leadership Academy for Supervisors

(LAS) program. Aurora Joined the Academy for Workforce Development in March 2024.



Curtisea Anderson, Child Welfare Trainer, B.A. in Psychology from Central Connecticut State University

Curtisea began her work with the Department in September 2000, working as a treatment social worker until November 2008 when she transitioned to Investigations. During her time in investigations, Curtisea was outposted in the East Hartford Police Department for 7 years. She also worked as an Adolescent Social Worker prior to being promoted as a Social Work Supervisor in 2021 where she supervised trainees. Curtisea has served as the Co-Lead for the Racial Justice Committee in Region 2 and 4, a DCF representative of East Hartford Juvenile Review Board, and the Considered Removal Meeting co-liaison in New Haven DCF. Curtisea joined the Academy for Workforce Development in August 2025.



Sarah Clark, Child Welfare Trainer, BA in Sociology and Applied Social Relations, Eastern Connecticut State University. MSW, University of Connecticut, School of Social Work.

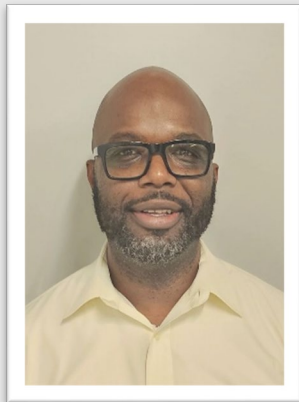
Sarah began her employment with the Department of Children and Families as a Social Worker at the Willimantic area office in March of 2007. As a Social Worker, she acquired six years of experience in ongoing services before transitioning to an Adolescent Unit. In 2018, Sarah became a Social Work Supervisor for a training unit. From 2019-2023, Sarah was a supervisor in the Administrative Case Review Division and then transitioned back to child protection services where she supervised a combined ongoing and training unit. Sarah joined the Academy for Workforce Development in

August 2025.



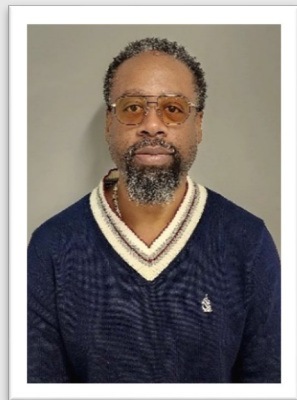
Gregory A. Curtiss, Child Welfare Trainer, B.S. in Human Development and Family Studies from the University of Connecticut.

Greg began his work with the Department in May 2002, working as a treatment social worker until November 2003 when he transitioned to Investigations. Greg served as an investigation social worker for 13 years and was promoted to Social Work Supervisor of Investigations in 2016. Greg has been providing training to mandated reporters since 2005, and in 2012, received his training certification from the Connecticut Police Officers Standards and Training (POST) Council in child abuse and neglect. Since then, he has been training sexual abuse investigation/identification for DCF staff, law enforcement, and community providers. In his 21 years of experience in the Waterbury office, Greg joined the Academy for Workforce



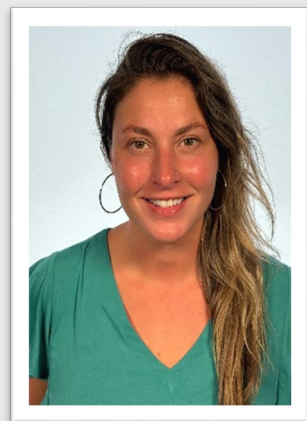
D'Oyen Barrett, Child Welfare Trainer, B.S. Human Development and Family Relations from University of Connecticut

D'Oyen Barrett started his DCF journey as a social worker in the Norwalk office then transitioned to a social worker in the Meriden office. As a social worker, he has held positions in Permanency, Ongoing, Investigation, Voluntary Services and FWSN. D'Oyen was promoted to social work supervisor in 2008 and has worked in the New Haven, Milford, and Waterbury area offices. As a social work supervisor, he oversaw the Adolescence Services, Training, Ongoing Services, Medically Complex, Permanency and Probate units. D'Oyen joined the Academy for Workforce Development in May of 2022.



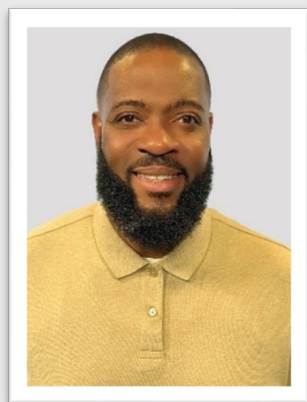
Marc Williams Child Welfare Trainer, B.S. Public Health from Southern Connecticut State University

Marc began his career with DCF in 1995 in region 2. Marc served as an Adolescent Worker until 1997 when he transitioned to Intake. Marc was promoted to Supervisor in 2014. He transitioned to region 1 as an Ongoing Treatment Supervisor until returning to Intake as a Supervisor in 2016. During his tenure in region 1 Marc served as the Fatherhood Engagement Leadership Team (FELT) Lead. Marc joined the Academy for Workforce Development in November 2022 as a Child Welfare Trainer.



Dawn Jackle, Child Welfare Trainer, BSW, Southern Connecticut State University

Dawn began her career with the Department in October 2005, working as a treatment social worker until 2007 when she transitioned to Investigations for the next 10 years. During those 10 years, Dawn was specifically assigned to a detective bureau with specialties in sexual abuse, drug enforcement, and fatality cases. She served as a liaison for the schools, police, and providers, to include being certified by an Assistant Attorney General as a specialist in child abuse and neglect, being called to testify as an expert witness on criminal matters. In 2017, Dawn was promoted to Social Work Supervisor of Trainees. In May 2024, Dawn joined the Academy for Workforce Development.



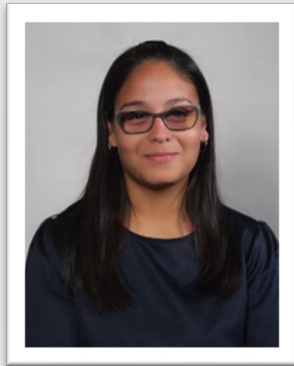
Eric Smith, Child Welfare Trainer, BA, POST University

Eric began his career with the Department in June 2016, working as a treatment social worker until 2017 when he transitioned to Investigations for the next 5 years. Eric was promoted to an Ongoing Treatment Social Work Supervisor in June 2022, where he supervised Social Work Trainees. While supervising trainees, Eric was heavily invested in the onboarding process and ensuring new hires were adequately acclimated to DCF. He transitioned to Intake/Probate as a Supervisor in 2023. During his tenure in region 5, Eric served as a Wellness, Racial Justice, and Fatherhood Engagement Leadership Team (FELT) Lead. Eric joined the Academy for Workforce Development in October 2025 as a Child Welfare Trainer.



Pamela Williams, Office Supervisor

Pam has been with DCF since November 1988, and held positions as a Clerk Typist, Office Assistant, Head Clerk, Secretary II, Administrative Assistant and Office Supervisor. During her tenure with DCF she has worked for various Divisions such as Protective Services in the Meriden & Middletown area offices, the Administrative Law, Policy and Licensing Division, and the Quality Improvement Division. In January 2005 Pam joined the Academy for Workforce Development, where she assumed the position as a Statewide Clerical Coordinator.



Danielle Perez, Administrative Assistant

Danielle Perez was welcomed to the DCF's Academy for Workforce Development in June 2022 to the position of Secretary 2. This is Danielle's first position as a state employee. Prior to joining DCF, Danielle served as the administrative assistant for the pharmacy department of Mount Sinai West hospital in New York City for 6 years. Danielle earned a BA from Hunter College in English Creative Writing and has also studied music with an emphasis on solo piano for over 20 years. In December 2023 Danielle was promoted to Administrative Assistant.



Tahani Zaben, Secretary 1

Tahani was welcomed to the DCF's Academy for Workforce Development in June 2026 to the position of Secretary 1. Prior to joining DCF Tahani worked as an Administrative Clerk for the Judicial Branch call center. Tahani's previous work includes para educator for special ed in CREC magnet school and patient transport supervisor at Bay State Medical in MS. Tahari earned her B.S. in Healthcare Administrator, Emergency Management Services from Columbia Southern University.