

Field Activity Overview and Bundling Ideas

Brief overview of field activities: (Link to activity guides: <https://www.oercommons.org/authoring/21058-core-for-social-workers-field-activities/view>)

Module 3 Field Activities:

ICWA: This field activity will prepare the social worker for success in the field should they encounter an Indian child. This will be achieved by identifying local ICWA resources to support child welfare outcomes and will reinforce the value of keeping an Indian child connected to culture and community.

Fairness and Equity: This activity is designed to introduce new social workers to county specific Disparity Indices data as a way to facilitate a conversation about culturally responsive services and supports, and how bias impacts engagement, collaboration, decision-making, and outcomes for children and families. Additionally, the social worker will review information from kidsdata.org related to Adverse Childhood Experiences for children in their county.

Interviewing: The trainees will prepare for and complete an interview with a family member, caregiver, youth, or stakeholder. Following the interview, the trainee will reflect on what worked well, any challenges or opportunities for upgrade during the interview, and next steps.

Exploring Family and Relationships: Utilizing an active case or case file review, the trainee will develop a genogram, eco-map, or safety circle to help identify family, extended family, community, and tribal connection that may serve as support people and permanent connections for children, youth, and families.

Module 4 Field Activities:

Completing SDM Assessment Tools: Trainee will complete a relevant SDM Safety and Risk tool. Completion of SDM tools are critical to social work practice and the assessment of safety and risk. While not all social workers will be required to complete SDM tools as part of their day-to-day case management responsibilities, all social workers are responsible for understanding how decisions have been made in the case and the experience of families throughout the child welfare system. Safety is at the heart of all decisions made in child welfare. All social workers are assessing for safety no matter their assignment in the child welfare system.

Safety and Risk in Teams: The trainee will participate in a team meeting with a family on his/her caseload OR observe a team meeting with the permission of the social worker and the family. This can be any meeting that brings the family together with the child welfare agency to discuss safety and safety planning. At the conclusion of the meeting, the trainee will have participated in developing a plan that ensures safety for the child/youth or will have completed an observation tool related to the discussion of safety and risk in the team meeting.

Module 6 Field Activity:

Initial case plan: The social worker will participate in or observe a case planning meeting with a family to develop the initial case plan.

Module 7 Field Activities:

Case plan update: The social worker will participate in or observe a case planning meeting with a family to develop an updated case plan.

Transition planning: The social worker will participate in or observe a case planning meeting with a family to develop a transition case plan. This would be a case planning meeting where upcoming case closure, after care planning, or case transfer planning would occur.

Examples of field activities that can be done as a group:

- **ICWA:** This activity is focused on becoming familiar with the ICWA resources / tribal connections in your county to stress the importance of tribal engagement, sovereignty, noticing, and maintaining cultural connections for children. This makes sense to do as a group because you have the same resources / tribes you are working with / county protocols, etc.
- **Fairness and Equity:** This activity is focused on looking at the Disparity Indices / data for your county so it makes sense to have a group discussion about this. There is also a helpful worksheet to guide the conversation.

Examples of field activities that can be bundled:

- Interviewing & Exploring family relationships
- Interviewing & Completing SDM Assessment Tools
- ICWA & Fairness and Equity (could do these back to back as a group)
- Any of the teaming activities (Safety & Risk in Teams, Initial Case Plan, Case Plan Update, Transition planning) may also include interviewing and exploring family relationships

Resources / Web links:

- Link to Academy website: <https://humanservices.ucdavis.edu/northern-academy>
- Link to current Child Welfare Training Regulations (ACL 08-23): <http://www.cdss.ca.gov/lettersnotices/entres/getinfo/acl08/08-23.pdf>
- Link to the Academy Core Resources web page (Scroll to the bottom of the page for Field Advisor resources): <http://bit.ly/CoreForSW>
- Link to Core Field Activity Guides (and link to field activity completion survey) web page: <https://www.oercommons.org/authoring/21058-core-for-social-workers-field-activities/view>
- Link to Field Advisor Training Materials on the web: <https://www.oercommons.org/authoring/12021-field-advisor-and-the-field-guide-getting-to-know-/view>
- Link to the Field Activity Completion Survey (to be completed by Field Advisors): <http://bit.ly/FieldActivitySurvey>
- Link to the All County Letter (ACL) 17-17: "Implementation of Statewide Common Core 3.0 Curriculum" (released 3/17/17): <http://www.cdss.ca.gov/inforesources/2017-All-County-Letters>
- Link to Safety Organized Practice (SOP) Resources Page: <http://bit.ly/SafetyOrganizedPractice>
- Project implicit (this is a resource that includes a free self-assessment test about our implicit biases and can be used in conjunction with the Fairness and Equity field activity as a way to discuss biases): <https://implicit.harvard.edu/implicit/>