

Key Issues Behavioral Health

eLearning Guide

As a child welfare social worker, you will work with families experiencing behavioral health problems throughout your career. It is important to have some basic information to guide your work.

- Overall, an estimated 1 in 4 adults in this country will experience a behavioral health concern in a given year.
- Approximately 5 to 6% of adults will be diagnosed with a serious behavioral health disorder such as schizophrenia, major depression, or bipolar disorder.
- Because many individuals attempt to deal with emotional dysregulation through substance use, around 4% or 9.2 million adults have both behavioral health concerns and substance use disorders.
- About 26% of homeless adults staying in shelters live with serious behavioral health concerns and an estimated 46% live with behavioral health problems and co-occurring substance use disorders.
- Among children and teens, approximately 20% of youth ages 13 to 18 experience severe behavioral health concerns in a given year.
- The average age of onset is between age 14 and age 24. 50% of all chronic mental illness begins by the age of 14; 75% begins by age 24.

This eLearning guide was created for you to use in conjunction with the eLearning to take notes. You will bring this handout with you to the Key Issues classroom training, and the trainer will provide you with the correct responses.

1. What are some signs and symptoms of Anxiety disorders?

2. How can Anxiety disorders impact parenting?

3. What are some signs and symptoms of Trauma and Stressor-Related disorders?

4. How can Trauma and Stressor-Related disorders impact parenting?

5. What are some signs and symptoms of Depressive disorders?

6. How can Depressive disorders impact parenting?

7. What are some signs and symptoms of Bipolar and Related disorders?

8. How can Bipolar and Related disorders impact parenting?

9. What are some signs and symptoms of Schizophrenia Spectrum and other Psychotic disorders?

10. How can Schizophrenia Spectrum and other Psychotic disorders impact parenting?

11. What are some signs and symptoms of Personality disorders?

12. How can Personality disorders impact parenting?

13. Why are behavioral health concerns considered complicating factors rather than de facto evidence of child maltreatment?

14. Describe the impact of trauma on childhood behavioral health:

15. Where can you download the Foster Youth Mental Health Bill of Rights?

16. Describe how symptoms of Anxiety might be expressed in children:

17. Describe symptoms of Attention Deficit Hyperactivity disorder:

18. Describe how culture can intersect with behavioral health:

NOTES: