

Connecting Probation Youth with Families and Others

Youth at risk of or in placement have often been disconnected from a caring family. Family members and relatives may not even be aware the youth is pending or been removed from their family. It is time to remove the systematic barriers that block these youth, from maintaining or reestablishing contact and relationships with those who love them. This class uses a framework that can help us rethink the possibilities to improve safety, well-being and permanency outcomes for our most vulnerable youth.

Topics include:

- Describe the stages of family search, engagement, and connection process
- Defining techniques to engage youth and families in the search, engagement, and connections
 - Identifying resources that can be assessed and utilized to search for and locate family, extended family members, friends and significant others
- Demonstrate implementing aspects of a new paradigm that will increase the results of the family search, engagement, and the connections process being integrated into daily practice

As a result of this training, participants will be able to conduct the steps to family searches, have the initial foundation on how to engage families to increase successes with family finding and engagement

Instructors

Ebony Chambers has provided youth and family services for over 15 years and brings both professional and personal life experiences to her work. As a mother who has worked through and navigated multiple systems with her own child, she brings that experience to her work and provides the oversight of advocacy and support to families in the greater Sacramento and Yolo County communities. Prior to her role as director of Family and Youth Partnership at Stanford Youth Solutions, she worked as an administrator for residential care for youth. She is actively involved in the community, serving as the co-chair of the UC Davis Parent Partner Advisory Committee, a member of the Mental Health Services Act Steering Committee and other community initiatives.

Yolanda Jammer has over six years' experience providing direct services across programs such as Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention, Therapeutic Behavioral Services and Wraparound, where she provided case management support and crisis intervention. Jammer has been a parent partner and consumer and has successfully navigated mental health, child welfare and juvenile systems. She has provided peer-to-peer assistance and community linkages to families and vulnerable populations and has addressed emotional, behavioral, substance use, and mental health disorders in a variety of mental health settings. She is currently a peer navigator for a provider agency, where she provides crisis-response intervention services. In her previous experience as a family partner, she facilitated crisis intervention groups and provided one-on-one coaching with clients.



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