

CASA/GAL Training Opportunities

April-June 2023



1. CASA volunteers are to take twelve (12) hours of on-going training annually, of which 3 hours must qualify as GAL training under Ohio Supreme Court Rule 48, noted as such below: ***Rule 48**.
2. Trainings in **BLUE** are especially recommended and are organized by CASA.
3. Submit all training certificates to **Judy Leb**, jleb@co.lucas.oh.us for credit towards your required annual training.
4. **LCCS Note:** If you miss more than 15 minutes of any training at the Lucas County Conference and Learning Center, you will not be given a training certificate. Arrive on time! Also, there is a charge for parking of \$3.75. Please make sure to bring cash with you.
5. Additional valuable online trainings are available on the following websites:
<https://www.nationalcac.org/online-training-catalog/>
<https://www.supremecourt.ohio.gov/JudicialCollegePublicCalendar/#/judicialcollegecourses>
<https://www.ohiocasa.org/available-courses/> (3 New Courses highlighted below)
<https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5b3ffea5620b85be5d272f4b/t/601ab323ca147d37c16988ed/1612362533393/National-CASA-GAL-Association-for-Children-2020-Archived-Webinars-Catalog.pdf>
Please email Judy Leb to see if the training you are interested in is Rule 48 approved.

April 2023

Sensory Integration and Emotional Regulation for Children of Trauma *IN-PERSON*

***Rule 48**

Date: Monday, April 3, 2023 & Tuesday, April 4, 2023 (**Multiple Dates**) **Time:** 9:00 am – 4:00 pm (6 Credit Hours)

Place: Lucas County Conference and Learning Center, 711 Adams St. **Cost:** Free

Instructor: Ruby Johnston

To sign up: Email Megan Hite at megan.hite@jfs.ohio.gov

Description: Sensory processing/sensory integration refers to the way the nervous system receives messages from the senses and turns them into appropriate motor and behavioral responses. Whether you are biting into a hamburger, riding a bicycle, or reading a book, your successful completion of the activity requires processing sensation, or "sensory integration." Sensory Processing Disorder (SPD) is a condition that exists when sensory signals don't get organized into appropriate responses. Children who have experienced psychological trauma are at a higher risk of Sensory Processing Disorder and sensory challenges – all leading to difficulty in regulating their own emotions. All child welfare professionals need to know and understand these challenges, as well as be able to offer strategies to those who are serving vulnerable children. Without a comprehensive understanding or effective strategies, children who have experienced trauma will not have all their needs met. This training includes an interactive LAB experience with hands-on activities.

Coffee with CASA: Community Services Training

***Rule 48**

Date: Tuesday, April 4, 2023

Time: 9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. (1.5 Credit Hours)

Place: Mott Branch Library, 1010 Dorr Street, Toledo 43607

Cost: Free, includes light breakfast

Instructors: Michelle Hoffman, LCCS Quality Assurance Supervisor; Kristi Hannan, Lucas County Family Council Associate Director of Early Childhood

To sign up: Email Andrea De la Roca, aroca@co.lucas.oh.us by March 31, 2023

Description: Topics covered will include:

- Help Me Grow
- Early Intervention
- Parenting Classes and other LCCS sponsored services
- Half hour open forum for participants to ask questions

Beyond the Bruises: Effects of Domestic Violence on Children *IN-PERSON*

***Rule 48**

Date: Tuesday, April 11, 2023

Time: 9:00 am – 4:00 pm (6 Credit Hours)

Place: Lucas County Conference and Learning Center, 711 Adams St. **Cost:** Free

Instructor: Brian Bethel

To sign up: Email Megan Hite at megan.hite@jfs.ohio.gov

Description: This workshop will provide participants with the most recent statistical data regarding children affected by domestic violence. Likewise, a review of the cycle of violence will be provided, as well as discussions of how children may react to the cycle of violence. Participants will be exposed to the wide range of psychopathology that domestic violence

may precipitate for children. A review of treatment modalities will be offered as resources for children impacted by domestic violence.

Keep Your Cool and Help Others Calm Down *VIRTUAL*

***Rule 48**

Date: Friday, April 14, 2023

Time: 9:00 am – 4:00 pm (6 Credit Hours)

Place: Lucas County Conference and Learning Center, 711 Adams St. **Cost:** Free

Instructor: Jody Johnston Pawel

To sign up: Email Megan Hite at megan.hite@jfs.ohio.gov

Description: Prevent stress from bubbling over and anger from erupting by using the practical tools in this workshop. First, understand the differences between healthy and toxic stress, basic stress/anger management skills, and a simple two-step formula for creating an individualized stress and anger management plan for yourself or others, whether children or adults. Then dive deeper, to understand what's happening biochemically during stress/anger, how emotional addictions and trauma triggers get wired in, and how toxic emotions can create cellular changes that result in disease. Then preview several practical techniques that facilitate neuroplasticity (rewiring the nervous system) and returning to health. The information and skills strategies you learn in this workshop will help improve your personal and professional life, plus you can use what you learn to support or assist children or adults with whom you live or work in better understanding and managing their stress or anger, too.

Making Report Writing Easy (CASA Core Repeat)

***Rule 48**

Date: Wednesday, April 19, 2023

Time: 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm (2 Credit Hours)

Place: Webinar via Zoom

Cost: Free

To Sign-Up: E-mail Karen Sawmiller, ksawmi@co.lucas.oh.us

Instructors: Emily Richter, J.D. and Chris Caryer, J.D.

Description: Attend this training to brush up on your report writing skills. Learn tips and tricks to making your court report the most useful tool in your CASA tool belt. ***Required for those who completed the CASA/GAL Pre-Service Training within the last 12 months. This training will be recorded. If you cannot attend the live session, please request the link from Karen Sawmiller.**

YWCA Racial Justice Challenge

***Rule 48**

Date: a month-long program via daily emails, starting April 17, 2023

Time: On your own time (8 Credit Hours)

To sign up: **Register for the Racial Justice Challenge**

<https://act.ywca.org/r/E/OTq1Nw/MjU2ODE0/0/amxIYkBiBy5sdWNhcy5vaC51cw/aHR0cHM6Ly9nZXQtaW52b2x2ZWQteXdjYS5tbi5jby9zcGFjZXMvMTAzNzczMzlvYWJvdXQjISMh/104/1>

Description: The challenge is designed to build effective social justice habits, particularly those dealing with issues of race, power, privilege, and leadership. The YWCA will send you daily activities for four weeks each weekday such as reading an article or listening to a podcast related to four critical themes — disability, housing, mental health, and music — through the free app or web browser. Connect with other participants, identify tactics to dismantle racism, and join a network of folks learning to address discrimination in their communities. Each day you may choose to do one or more of the activities.

Drug Detection in Child Protection *IN-PERSON*

***Rule 48**

Date: Tuesday, April 25, 2023

Time: 9:00 am – 4:00 pm (6 Credit Hours)

Place: Lucas County Conference and Learning Center, 711 Adams St. **Cost:** Free

Instructor: Brian Bethel

To sign up: Email Megan Hite at megan.hite@jfs.ohio.gov

Description: Parental substance use disorders remain a prevalent and complex issue within the child welfare system. Child welfare workers are challenged with the difficult task of ascertaining adequate information about families to complete accurate assessments and make appropriate decisions in order to protect children. Consequently, the recognition and detection of substances and related paraphernalia is an important competency for social service professionals. This training will provide a general overview of the most common substances and their related paraphernalia, as well as the effects these substances have on the body.

Immigration and Child Welfare Issues *VIRTUAL*

***Rule 48**

Date: Tuesday, April 25, 2023

Time: 9:00 am – 4:00 pm (6 Credit Hours)

Place: Webinar

Cost: Free

Instructor: Dr. Kathryn Mercer

To sign up: Email Megan Hite at megan.hite@jfs.ohio.gov

Description: Immigrant families constitute a large and growing portion of the national population. Almost one-fourth of children and youth in the United States are either immigrants or children of immigrants. Workshop participants will learn about the different legal statuses of immigrant families, the problems these families face in the child welfare system, and additional legal protections for undocumented youth.

Verbal De-escalation in the Human Services *VIRTUAL*

***Rule 48**

Date: Friday, April 28, 2023

Time: 9:00 am – 4:00 pm (6 Credit Hours)

Place: Lucas County Conference and Learning Center, 711 Adams St. **Cost:** Free

Instructors: Brian Lowery and Kathy Lowery

To sign up: Email Megan Hite at megan.hite@jfs.ohio.gov

Description: This workshop will review the skills of active listening, non-violent communication, and verbal de-escalation. Levels of crisis development and the conflict cycle are discussed, emphasizing a culturally appropriate staff response. Trainees will virtually participate in exercises and demonstrations concerning personal space, body posture, and motion.

May 2023

Building Inclusive Practices in Our Communities

***Rule 48**

Date: Thursday, May 18, 2023

Time: 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm (2 Credit Hours)

Place: Main Library, (1st floor large glass community room) 325 North Michigan Street **Cost:** Free

Instructor: MelRo Potter, Ohio CASA Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Coordinator

To sign up: <http://events.toledolibrary.org/event/7040937>

Description: Cultural inclusivity benefits the workplace, offering viewpoints that add value to decisions and understanding amongst teams. Learn leadership practices that lean into cultural inclusion and humility. This event is sponsored by [Lucas County Court Appointed Special Advocates/Guardian ad Litem \(CASA/GAL\)](#) and is part of [Better Toledo](#), a personal and professional development series to ensure “you will do better in Toledo.”

Northeast Ohio Regional Training sponsored by OH CASA

***Rule 48**

Date: Saturday, May 20, 2023

Time: 10:00 am – 3:00 pm (4 Credit Hours)

Place: Ashland Historical Society Manor House, 414 Center St. Ashland, OH 44805 **Cost:** Free & **includes lunch**

To Sign-Up: Register at ohiocasa.org; Questions: doder@ohiocasa.org

Instructors: Tara Shook and Carin Burr

Description: Supporting Kinship in Ohio (2 hours) and Diversity and the Biases We Learned (2 hours)

GAL: Communication and Diversity for the GAL

***Rule 48**

Date: Tuesday, May 23, 2023

Time: 1:00 pm – 4:15 pm (3 Credit Hours)

Place: Live Webinar

Cost: Free

Instructor: Eileen Anderson, EdD, Director of Educational Programs, Bioethics & Medical Humanities, Case Western Reserve University

To sign up: <https://www.supremecourt.ohio.gov/JudicialCollegePublicCalendar/#/judicialcollegecourses>

Description: To provide recommendations of the best interest of a child, a guardian ad litem (GAL) must consider the dynamic forces that shape their values and attitudes. This three-hour course will explore implicit bias, as well as societal factors that influence children, including racial and ethnic background, economic status, LGBTQ+ identification, and religion. As a result of this course, guardians ad litem will be able to:

1. Examine implicit bias and its effects;
2. Recognize issues children and families face related to diversity, equity, and inclusion;
3. Describe ways to communicate effectively with people from different backgrounds; and
4. Identify recommendations that further the best interest of a child while considering personal beliefs and culture.

June 2023

Safety in the District for Direct Service Workers: What You Need to Know to Stay Safe *VIRTUAL*

***Rule 48**

Date: Wednesday, June 7, 2023

Time: 9:00 am – 12:00 pm (3 Credit Hours)

Place: Webinar

Cost: Free

Instructor: Dr. Christine Kelly Cross

To sign up: Email Megan Hite at megan.hite@jfs.ohio.gov

Description: This safety in the district class will provide evidenced-based information on how direct service workers can better protect themselves when in the field and while on home visits. What can be done to assist in your own safety, and how to prepare for a safe home visit. Areas that will be covered are: increasing awareness, assessing the vulnerability in different settings, when to get assistance, how to deescalate an escalating situation, and developing prevention plans.

Child and Animal Abuse *IN-PERSON*

Date: Friday, June 16, 2023

Time: 9:00 am – 4:00 pm (6 Credit Hours)

Place: Lucas County Conference and Learning Center, 711 Adams St. **Cost:** Free

Instructor: Theresa Chrisman

To sign up: Email Megan Hite at megan.hite@jfs.ohio.gov

Description: Throughout history, child and animal control workers have been intertwined. The first case of child abuse and neglect in the United States was filed in the court system by the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals in 1874. Today, Humane Agents are given legal rights under the law to protect children by being mandated reporters of child abuse and neglect. In 2021, Ohio passed House Bill 33 which made Child Welfare Workers and others Mandated Reporters of animal cruelty.

This workshop is designed to make child welfare workers aware of the roles and responsibilities of child welfare, humane agents and/or dog wardens. Workers will learn how reports are made to these agencies. Also, a discussion will take place about dog bites, Dangerous and vicious animals, Dog fighting, Domestic violence and how this is considered family violence when animals are involved. Knowing the signs of child and animal abuse along with the characteristics of children and animals living in these homes is essential for any worker. This course will focus on Federal and state laws pertaining to animal cruelty. House Bill 33 will be discussed along with how workers can meet their new mandates. Discussions will occur about CAPMIS and SACWIS with regard to assessing for safety as well as reporting and documenting in SACWIS. Finally, workers' safety will be paramount in discussing this topic.

Trauma and Addiction: Fire and Ice *IN-PERSON*

Date: Friday, June 23, 2023

Place: Online Webinar

Instructor: Brian Bethel

To sign up: Email Megan Hite at megan.hite@jfs.ohio.gov

Description: Although there are a multitude of factors that influence the onset and progression of addiction, there remains a consensus among mental health professionals that there is a strong correlation between trauma and the disease of addiction. As such, the marriage between an individual's traumatic experiences and substance use often creates significant challenges, as witnessed by social service professionals. This training will underscore the relationship between traumatic experiences and substance use disorders. The curriculum will also address the barriers commonly identified when servicing persons who confront the disease of addiction and have a history of trauma. Specific research-supported paradigms will be offered to assist professionals who serve this population.

Time: 9:00 am – 4:00 pm (6 Credit Hours)

Cost: Free

National Children's Advocacy Center: Available online, anytime:

Why Parents Don't Believe

Date: Available anytime online

Place: Webinar

Instructor: Chris Newlin, MS, LPC

To sign up: <https://www.nationalcac.org/online-training-catalog/>

Description: Parents and caregivers, when faced with emerging allegations involving the abuse of their child, are suddenly confronted with a situation for which they are poorly prepared. This is not significantly different from other situations involving parents' reactions regarding the well-being of their children. However, the ambiguity of child abuse allegations creates heightened challenges, and this same ambiguity is also a challenge for Multi-Disciplinary Team members involved in the investigation and intervention. This session will identify the difference between belief and ambivalence and how all professionals involved in child abuse cases can assist parents to be supportive and engaged with their children.

***Rule 48**

Time: 1 Credit Hour

Cost: Free

Avoiding Vicarious Trauma and Burnout

Date: Available anytime online

Place: Webinar

Instructor: Maureen Kenny, PhD and Claire Helpingstine, MS with moderator Linda Cordisco Steele

To sign up: <https://www.nationalcac.org/online-training-catalog/>

Description: 1. Participants will become familiar with signs of burnout and vicarious trauma in order to self-identify these conditions.
2. Participants will learn the unique challenges of working with victims of human trafficking and the effects this work may have on them.
3. Participants will learn strategies to avoid burnout and vicarious traumatization from service providers.

***Rule 48**

Time: 1.5 Credit Hours

Cost: Free

Building Strong Brains: Tennessee's ACE (Adverse Childhood Experiences) Initiative

Date: Available anytime online

Place: Webinar

Instructor: Cary Rayson, MSW

To sign up: <https://www.nationalcac.org/online-training-catalog/>

***Rule 48**

Time: 1 Credit Hour

Cost: Free

Description: Participants will learn:

- The architecture of a young child's brain is shaped by interaction between genes and experiences, and this can have either positive or negative results:
- Science makes it clear that Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) negatively impact the architecture of the developing brain
- Children thrive in a safe, stable, nurturing environment of supportive families, caregivers, neighborhoods and communities

Finding Their Voice: Reasons Children Delay Disclosure

***Rule 48**

Date: Available anytime online

Time: 1.75 Credit Hours

Place: Webinar

Cost: Free

Instructor: Andra Chamberlin & Kim Madden

To sign up: <https://www.nationalcac.org/online-training-catalog/>

Description: Despite overwhelming scientific consensus that the majority of child sexual abuse victims either delay, or only partially disclose their experiences, expectations of prompt, comprehensive reporting persist. Misperceptions regarding this dynamic can have wide-ranging impacts. Juries may equate a reporting delay with veracity, parents may miss or misread a partial disclosure, and victims may be silenced by watching disbelief of another person's account evolve into disparaging questions of motive. This online webinar will examine the science which informs our understanding of sexual abuse disclosure dynamics across the lifespan. Factors that discourage and enable disclosure will be presented and best practice recommendations for addressing delayed disclosure will be discussed.

Grooming: Making You See and Believe What I Want You to See and Believe

***Rule 48**

Date: Available anytime online

Time: 1 Credit Hour

Place: Webinar

Cost: Free

Instructor: Chris Newlin, MS LPC

To sign up: <https://www.nationalcac.org/online-training-catalog/>

Description: The investigation of child abuse is challenging, and the pursuit of evidence associated with the grooming of children, caregivers, and the community environment provides opportunities for investigators to pursue additional evidence. This workshop will provide an overview of research related to grooming and proposes a new framework for the concept of grooming which could dramatically modify current investigatory practices, in addition to enhancing current forensic interviewing efforts.

Poly-victimization: Childhood Exposure to Multiple Forms of Victimization

***Rule 48**

Date: Available anytime online

Time: .75 Credit Hours

Place: Webinar

Cost: Free

Instructor: Heather A. Turner, BA PhD and Sherry Hamby, PhD

To sign up: <https://www.nationalcac.org/online-training-catalog/>

Description: Far too many children are exposed to abuse, violence, and crime. A new emphasis on what is being called "poly-victimization" can help professionals identify the most endangered children and youth, provide the most appropriate interventions, and protect them from additional harm. Poly-victimization refers to the experience of multiple victimizations of different kinds (for example, sexual abuse, physical abuse, bullying, witnessing family violence, and exposure to community violence). This webinar provides participants with information on the latest research on the prevalence, characteristics, and effects of poly-victimization on children and adolescents. The importance of assessment and treatment of poly-victimization and its implications for practitioners is addressed.

The Science and Power of Hope

***Rule 48**

Date: Available anytime online

Time: 1.75 Credit Hours

Place: Webinar

Cost: Free

Instructor: Chan Hellman, PhD with moderator Karen Hangartner

To sign up: <https://www.nationalcac.org/online-training-catalog/>

Description: Internationally renowned researcher, Dr. Chan Hellman, will share his insight on how the Science and Power of Hope can buffer adversity and stress; provide better psychological, social, and behavioral outcomes for children and adults; and can be increased and sustained by targeted interventions. The development of Hope can be applied individually, organizationally, and in our communities to overcome the impacts of trauma and adversity. Dr. Hellman's presentation provides an opportunity to learn about the core tenants of goals, pathways, and agency (willpower) thinking. Participants leave with practical knowledge to apply in their own lives; and knowledge about how Hope impacts our individual and collective experiences. This presentation will provide individuals and organizations with the foundation for a shared language to use Hope in everyday settings

Ohio CASA Association: Available online, anytime:

NEW! Recognizing, Understanding, and Addressing Bias

***Rule 48**

Date: Available anytime online

Time: 1 Credit Hour

Place: Webinar

Cost: Free

Instructor: Jenny Stotts, Ohio's first Youth Ombudsman, serving foster youth across Ohio.

To sign up: <https://www.ohiocasa.org/available-courses/>

Description: What's YOUR bias? How might it be impacting your work? Learn more about the science behind implicit bias and what you can do to mitigate the effect of implicit bias on your work as a CASA Volunteer. This session will cover the construction of implicit biases, how to recognize implicit bias in yourself, and practical steps to address implicit bias.

NEW! The Gender Unicorn: Gender & Sexuality 101

***Rule 48**

Date: Available anytime online

Time: 1 Credit Hour

Place: Webinar

Cost: Free

Instructor: Amanda Erickson, Director of Education & Outreach, Kaleidoscope Youth Center

To sign up: <https://www.ohiocasa.org/available-courses/>

Description: This course will explore the complexity and depth of gender, including gender identity, gender expression, and sex assigned at birth; along with sexuality and the LGBTQIA+ acronym. Participants will practice using personal gender pronouns correctly (and the importance of doing so), and what words to avoid.

NEW! Narcotics 101

***Rule 48**

Date: Available anytime online

Time: 1 Credit Hour

Place: Webinar

Cost: Free

Instructor: Kevin Everhart, retired Narcotics Detective and Asst. Task Force Commander of a Major Crimes Task Force

To sign up: <https://www.ohiocasa.org/available-courses/>

Description: This course provides an overall understanding of the world of narcotics. Beginning with Medical Marijuana Laws of Ohio and continuing to the basic understanding of drugs of abuse, this course will provide you the tools you need to understand current drug trends. You also will learn what to be aware of when you are in the field and how to stay safe, along with understanding and interpreting drug testing results.

Engagement 101

***Rule 48**

Date: Available anytime online

Time: 1 Credit Hour

Place: Webinar

Cost: Free

Instructor: Talia Holmes & Nashawn Lariviere, Both Foster Care Advocates, Ohio Department of Job & Family Services

To sign up: <https://www.ohiocasa.org/available-courses/>

Description: Nashawn Lariviere and Talia Holmes draw both from their own lived experiences in the child welfare system and their professional experiences working with current and former youth in foster care to offer suggestions regarding different techniques that CASA volunteers and other professionals can use to effectively engage the youth with whom they work. While there is no single approach that is all inclusive or encompassing –each youth or young adult has their own individual story and experiences– the information provided should be useful to all who work with youth.

Post-Emancipation Services: Young Adult Services & Bridges

***Rule 48**

Date: Available anytime online

Time: 1.5 Credit Hours in 2 Parts, both required

Place: Webinar

Cost: Free

Instructor: Sarah Levels, MSW, Bridges Policy Developer, Ohio Department of Job and Family Services

To sign up: <https://www.ohiocasa.org/available-courses/>

Description: This video offers an overview of post emancipation services available to young adults 12-18 who have aged out of foster care in Ohio. The presentation begins with a discussion about final transition planning requirements and considerations for youth in foster care. Ms. Levels also provides an overview of Ohio's available post-emancipation services such as Medicaid coverage until the age of 26; the Ohio Education Training Voucher (ETV) which offers grant money to attend college; Young Adult Services' post-care services and supports that are offered through the county public children services agencies; and, Bridges, a state-administered program offering support services to emancipated foster youth who meet eligibility criteria. Finally, the audience is provided information that outlines how, as individuals, we each are able to play an important role in supporting former foster youth on their journey to independence.

Trauma in Childhood

***Rule 48**

Date: Available anytime online

Time: 1 Credit Hour

Place: Webinar

Cost: Free

Instructor: Ohio CASA Association

To sign up: <https://www.ohiocasa.org/available-courses/>

Description: Participants will gain a better understanding of how stress and trauma impact children and their behavior. By learning how children can develop the capacity to cope and be strengthened by adversity, participants will be better equipped to provide needed support, help children prepare for stressful situations, and build their own resiliency.

CASA Volunteers + Special Education

***Rule 48**

Date: Available anytime online

Time: 1.5 Credit Hours in 2 Parts, both required

Place: Webinar

Cost: Free

Instructor: Kristin Hildebrandt, Senior Attorney at Disability Rights Ohio

To sign up: <https://www.ohiocasa.org/available-courses/>

Description: Participants will gain a better understanding of Ohio's special education laws and processes, as well as specific ways that CASA volunteers can advocate within the educational system on behalf of the children they represent. This session also identifies various valuable resources to further aid the CASA volunteer.

Best Practices: Testifying in Court

***Rule 48**

Date: Available anytime online

Time: 1.75 Credit Hours in 2 Parts both required

Place: Webinar

Cost: Free

Instructor: Emily Richter, J.D. & Magistrate Rochelle Abou-Arraj, Lucas County CASA/Juvenile Court

To sign up: <https://www.ohiocasa.org/available-courses/>

Description: Conducted by two highly experienced attorneys, this session gives participants an overview of the CASA volunteer's role when testifying in court, as well as tips for effectively conveying the information considered most important to judicial decision-making. It is appropriate for newer CASA volunteers preparing to present their report in juvenile court, as well as more seasoned CASA volunteers who want to refresh their knowledge.

On the Margin: Foster Youth at Risk of Human Trafficking

***Rule 48**

Date: Available anytime online

Time: 1 Credit Hour

Place: Webinar

Cost: Free

Instructor: Ohio CASA Association

To sign up: <https://www.ohiocasa.org/available-courses/>

Description: Attendees will hear an open discussion among adult survivors of human trafficking and experts who are fighting to address the trafficking of juveniles. The conversation is led by former Ohio Supreme Court Justice Yvette McGee Brown. Attendees will better understand how professionals and advocates work together to help victims experience "healthy" and accept how to embrace it within their own lives to make change happen. This course has been approved for one hour Sup. Rule 48 continuing education hours.

Understanding Ohio's Child Protection System

***Rule 48**

Date: Available anytime online

Time: 1.5 Credit Hours

Place: Webinar

Cost: Free

Instructor: Denielle Ell-Rittinger and Renee Lupi

To sign up: <https://www.ohiocasa.org/available-courses/>

Description: This video will walk the participant through a family's journey when the subject of a suspected child abuse, neglect, or dependency report to an Ohio Public Children Services Agency (PCSA). Although there may be some variation in application among counties, all Ohio PCSA caseworkers utilize the same tools and processes for decision-making. The presenters will examine each of those tools, their purposes, the factors a caseworker must take into consideration, and how assessments guide decision-making. Understanding these processes can help the CASA volunteer and attorney guardian ad litem identify and collaboratively secure appropriate services and protections for the child they represent.

Part 1 begins with a look at the first two stages of intervention in Ohio's child welfare system, Intake and Assessment. As the family and caseworker move from the screening of a report to case decision, the video will examine the various decision points and assessments that are conducted to inform the caseworker's decision, as well as the pieces that the caseworker must put in place to protect and guide the child to permanency. This includes a high-level understanding of risk, safety and family assessments, case decisions, and placement options.

Part 2 looks at the third stage of Ohio's child welfare system, case management. This video dissects the elements of a quality case plan and helps the viewer to better understand how the language of the plan affects the family's ability to successfully modify behavior and address the concerns that led to protective intervention. As a CASA volunteer or attorney guardian ad litem you can advocate for families to be engaged in the development of case plans that are written clearly with observable measures and actions that directly link to the identified concerns.

Altering the Path to Delinquent Behaviors: A Guide for GALs

***Rule 48**

Date: Available anytime online

Time: 1.5 Credit Hours

Place: Webinar

Cost: Free

Instructor: Stefanie Lynn Coe, J.D., CASA of Franklin County

To sign up: <https://www.ohiocasa.org/available-courses/>

Description: Have you wondered how it is that so many of the children represented by CASA Volunteers or attorney guardians ad litem as a result of the child's abuse or neglect end up in the juvenile justice system? This course will help the CASA volunteer and attorney guardian ad litem become familiar with risk factors that may contribute to delinquent behavior, the steps that can be taken to help prevent or mitigate delinquent acts, and the types of community supports that may be available to help.

In this course, a highly experienced attorney describes the legal framework of juvenile delinquency and gives insight as to how this may impact the role of a CASA volunteer or attorney guardian ad litem. At conclusion, the participant will better understand the nature of delinquency and its causes, and have gained knowledge about the factors that contribute to a child choosing to engage in delinquent behavior.

Understanding Addiction: Squirrel Logic

***Rule 48**

Date: Available anytime online

Time: 1.5 Credit Hours

Place: Webinar

Cost: Free

Instructor: Brad Lander, Ph.D, Clinical Director - Addiction Medicine at The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center

To sign up: <https://www.ohiocasa.org/available-courses/>

Description: Ever asked yourself, "Why don't they just stop?" Using a mood-altering drug over time creates fundamental changes to the brain that lead to compulsive and self-destructive behavior. This presentation will help the viewer understand substance abuse as a chronic brain disease rather than bad behavior and fully conceptualize the impact of alcohol and drug use on the brain and behavior. Dr. Lander explores the physiology of how substance use becomes addiction and what this means in terms of establishing realistic time frames and expectations to support successful recovery based on neurological findings.

Ohio Supreme Court: Available online, anytime:

GAL: Psychiatric Disorders in Children

***Rule 48**

Date: Available anytime online

Time: 3 Credit Hours

Place: Webinar

Cost: Free

Instructor: Supreme Court of Ohio EDU

To sign up: <https://sco.csod.com/client/sco/default.aspx>

Description: What does a guardian ad litem (GAL) need to know, do, or think in order to identify the "best interest of the child" when a psychiatric disorder is a factor in their case? This 3 hour course will explore common psychiatric disorders in children, including causes, symptoms and common treatments. Fact patterns with discussion will help GALs apply the knowledge to realistic situations.

GAL: Advanced Topics in Substance Use

***Rule 48**

Date: Available anytime online

Time: 3 Credit Hours

Place: Webinar

Cost: Free

Instructor: Doug Althaus, Esq. LICDC, MAC, ICCS, ICADC ; Kristine Buffington, MSW, LISW; and Michelle Roley-Roberts, Ph.D.

To sign up: <https://sco.csod.com/client/sco/default.aspx>

Description: Parental substance use and dependency can have significant effects on children's development and well-being from conception through adulthood. The opioid epidemic in Ohio has intensified those effects, and the long term impacts are just beginning to emerge. This course provides Guardians ad Litem with knowledge and resources to help identify issues and make recommendations to impact the lives of children affected by substance use and related trauma.

GAL: Domestic Violence-Informed Practice for GALs

***Rule 48**

Date: Available anytime online

Time: 3 Credit Hours

Place: Webinar

Cost: Free

Instructor: David Mandel, Executive Director, Safe and Together Institute

To sign up: <https://sco.csod.com/client/sco/default.aspx>

Description: Research and experience tells us that many, if not most, cases that are referred to guardians ad litem (GAL) contain domestic violence as a significant component in the family dynamics. Domestic violence patterns that impact child and family functioning can be outside the scope of the legal definition of domestic violence (R.C. 2919.25 or 3113.31). Whether domestic violence is the precipitating cause for the referral to a GAL or is part of a family's history, the full range of facts surrounding domestic violence must be considered in making recommendations relative to children's

best interests. Interviewing family members, reviewing court documents, and writing reports requires knowledge of the non-offending parent's action to protect the children as well as the perpetrator's patterns of behaviors and their impact on child and family functioning to inform appropriate intervention strategies. In this course, GALs will gain critical knowledge and skills to recognize the nuances in domestic violence dynamics and implement practices to foster children's safety and well-being.

GAL: Advanced Topics in Child Abuse: Corporal Punishment

***Rule 48**

Date: Available anytime online

Time: 1.25 Credit Hours

Place: Webinar

Cost: Free

Instructor: Doug Althausen, Esq. LICDC, MAC, ICC ; Heidi A. Malott, MSW, LISW-S; Lolita M. McDavid MD, MPA, FAAP; and Kirsten Simonton , MD

To sign up: <https://sco.csod.com/client/sco/default.aspx>

Description: This online course will address issues commonly seen by Guardians ad Litem in relation to corporal punishment when assigned to juvenile and domestic relations court cases. The following topics are included in the course:

- Corporal Punishment—What is corporal punishment and when is it used?
- Positive and Negative Consequences—What are the consequences of corporal punishment?
- Alternatives to Corporal Punishment—What can be used in place of corporal punishment?
- Scenarios and Suggestions—What should GALs do in specific scenarios?

GAL: Advanced Topics in Child Abuse: Drug Endangered Children

***Rule 48**

Date: Available anytime online

Time: .5 Credit Hours

Place: Webinar

Cost: Free

Instructor: Doug Althausen, Esq. LICDC, MAC, ICC ; Heidi A. Malott, MSW, LISW-S; Lolita M. McDavid MD, MPA, FAAP; and Kirsten Simonton , MD

To sign up: <https://sco.csod.com/client/sco/default.aspx>

Description: This online course will address child and family issues commonly seen by Guardians ad Litem when assigned to juvenile and domestic relations court cases impacting drug endangered children. The following topics are included in the course:

- Introduction to Drug Endangered Children—What does drug exposure look like? What is normal and what is not?
- Scenarios and Suggestions—What should GALs do in specific scenarios?

GAL: Advanced Topics in Child Abuse: Sexual Behaviors in Children

***Rule 48**

Date: Available anytime online

Time: .75 Credit Hours

Place: Webinar

Cost: Free

Instructor: Doug Althausen, Esq. LICDC, MAC, ICC ; Heidi A. Malott, MSW, LISW-S; Lolita M. McDavid MD, MPA, FAAP; and Kirsten Simonton , MD

To sign up: <https://sco.csod.com/client/sco/default.aspx>

Description: This online course will address child sexual behavior issues commonly seen by Guardians ad Litem when assigned to juvenile and domestic relations court cases. The following topics are included in the course:

- Child Sexual Behavior Inventory—What is normal and what is not?
- When to Be Concerned—What are the warning signs that something is abnormal?
- What GALs Should Do—What should GALs do in specific scenarios?