

# CASA/GAL Training Opportunities

## November-December 2023



1. CASA volunteers are required 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](mailto: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.

## November 2023

### **A Primer on Street Drugs: The Agony and the Ecstasy**

**Date:** November 14, 2023

**Place:** NWO Regional Training Center, 711 Adams Street, Toledo

**Instructor:** Maureen Keating

**To sign up:** Email Megan Hite at [megan.hite@jfs.ohio.gov](mailto:megan.hite@jfs.ohio.gov)

**Description:** The goal of this workshop is to provide information to child welfare workers about commonly used street drugs and the paraphernalia associated with these drugs. Signs and symptoms of use and abuse will be discussed. Workers will learn to recognize potential indicators of substance abuse to help them identify parents who may be using and/or abusing substances. Cues from the environment, appearance, and behaviors of parents in addition to collateral information from the school, children, and other family members may be relevant in assessment. Cultural issues of the worker and families will be explored, and the importance of making appropriate referrals for assessment and treatment in case planning will be discussed. The effects of substance abuse on parenting and child abuse and neglect will also be addressed.

**\*Rule 48**

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

**Cost:** Free

### **Supporting and Working with African-American Families: A Non-Stereotypical Approach**

**Date:** November 17, 2023

**Place:** Virtual via Zoom

**Instructor:** Verlinda Bennett

**To sign up:** Email Megan Hite at [megan.hite@jfs.ohio.gov](mailto:megan.hite@jfs.ohio.gov)

**Description:** This workshop explores African-American families in the United States by placing them within the context of culture. This highly interactive workshop fosters self-exploration and self-awareness of one's own culture, including traditions, values, and codes of conduct. Participants will explore common errors individuals make when examining culture and African-American families. By distinguishing between race and culture, participants will review dynamic forces affecting African-American families, parents, and children. Additionally, by using case studies, participants will explore a framework for supporting and proactively working with African-American families.

**\*Rule 48**

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

**Cost:** Free

### **Bridges Out of Poverty**

**Date:** November 16, 2023

**Place:** Lucas County Emergency Medical Services Training Center, 2127 Jefferson Ave., Toledo

**Cost:** \$65 but 90% eligible for reimbursement via CASA. Price includes a box lunch and a book.

**Instructor:** Stephen MacDonald – Certified Bridges Out of Poverty trainer

**To sign up:** <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/bridges-out-of-poverty-training-tickets-521868010267>

**\*Rule 48**

**Time:** 9:00 am – 4:00 pm (6.5 Credit Hours)

**For more information:** Contact Stephen MacDonald [smacdonald@lucasfcfc.org](mailto:smacdonald@lucasfcfc.org) or 419-283-5485.

**Description:** This seminar gives participants a common language, understanding, and tools to prevent and alleviate poverty. Participants increase awareness of how economic class impacts life experience, resources, and stability. Customer service and teamwork in business and community settings are improved. This seminar is based on the book *Bridges Out of Poverty: Strategies for Professionals and Communities*, a collaboration between Ruby K. Payne, Philip DeVol, and Terie Dreussi Smith.

### **Methadone: Understand the Science & the Stigma**

**\*Rule 48**

**Date:** November 16, 2023

**Time:** Noon - 1:00 pm (3 Credit Hours)

**Place:** Live, Virtual Forum

**Cost:** Free

**Instructors:** BrightView's Mikaela Taylor (Vice President of Clinical Operations in Ohio) and Dr. Heidi Ginter (State Medical Director of Massachusetts)

**To sign up:**

<https://brightview.webex.com/webappng/sites/brightview/meeting/register/197ed6cbece54043a990369c55def4ef?ticket=4832534b000000063e688db77c8985b65b2df2cccc68dc40842243275b750897333dac2dc6fbfa4&timestamp=1699557935832&RGID=rc09a56806fd4c6606df61fa1e06ab316>

**Description:** Attendees will learn the following:

- The top facts and fiction you need to know about methadone
- Why methadone is misunderstood
- How methadone compares to other medications used in MAT programs
- How to know when methadone is the best option for a patient
- What patients should expect when taking methadone

## **December 2023**

### **Psychotropic Medications: Questions to Ask about Kids on Meds**

**\*Rule 48**

**Date:** December 1, 2023

**Time:** 9:00 am – 12:15 pm (3 Credit Hours)

**Place:** Virtual via Zoom

**Cost:** Free

**Instructor:** Stacy Simera

**To sign up:** Email Megan Hite at [megan.hite@jfs.ohio.gov](mailto:megan.hite@jfs.ohio.gov)

**Description:** The purpose of this course is to educate caseworkers, foster parents and other stakeholders on psychotropic medication use in the treatment of mental disorders among children and adolescents. Specific attention will be paid to answering the questions most people ask, or should ask, regarding psychotropic medication.

### **Basic Drug Identification**

**\*Rule 48**

**Date:** December 4, 2023

**Time:** 9:00 am – 4:00 pm (5.5 Credit Hours)

**Place:** NWO Regional Training Center, 711 Adams Street, Toledo

**Cost:** Free

**Instructor:** Lee Hawks

**To sign up:** Email Megan Hite at [megan.hite@jfs.ohio.gov](mailto:megan.hite@jfs.ohio.gov)

**Description:** Participants will be presented with information related to the identification of controlled substances, effects of drug abuse, understanding of drug cultures, and personal safety when encountering persons under the influence of drugs.

### **Identification of Meth Labs**

**\*Rule 48**

**Date:** December 5, 2023

**Time:** 9:00 am – 4:00 pm (5.5 Credit Hours)

**Place:** NWO Regional Training Center, 711 Adams Street, Toledo

**Cost:** Free

**Instructor:** Lee Hawks

**To sign up:** Email Megan Hite at [megan.hite@jfs.ohio.gov](mailto:megan.hite@jfs.ohio.gov)

**Description:** Methamphetamine manufacture and abuse has rapidly spread across the state of Ohio. Due to the complexity and hazardous nature of methamphetamine-related activities, it is imperative to be aware of the indicators and dangers associated with it. By understanding how to identify methamphetamine laboratories and the materials related to its manufacture and use, participants will reduce the chances of injury. In addition, participants will understand the urgent need for removal of children found in a methamphetamine environment, as well as the need for rehabilitation programs for their parents.

### **Race Matters-Transracial Adoptions: Preparing & Supporting Families to be Race-Conscious Advocates** **\*Rule 48**

**Date:** December 8, 2023

**Time:** 9:00 am – 12:15 pm (3 Credit Hours)

**Place:** Virtual via Zoom

**Cost:** Free

**Instructor:** Laura Morello

**To sign up:** Email Megan Hite at [megan.hite@jfs.ohio.gov](mailto:megan.hite@jfs.ohio.gov)

**Description:** It can feel challenging to assess prospective adoptive parents who will be adopting a transracial child. Following MEPA (Multiethnic Placement Act) regulations may leave some feeling perplexed about how to discuss race or racism during assessment or preparation with parents. This course seeks to address some of those concerns by exploring how to best support transracially adoptive families through exploring best practices, gleaned from adoptees themselves. As vital members of the adoptive family's journey, participants will also explore how systemic racism seeps its way into their work and result in unconscious biases. However, with understanding and the development of cultural humility, participants will be able to better support adoptive families around the issues of race and racism. With that understanding, adoptive parents and transracial adoptees will then have much better outcomes.

**Bridges Out of Poverty**

**\*Rule 48**

**Date:** December 12, 2023

**Time:** 9:00 am – 4:00 pm (6.5 Credit Hours)

**Place:** Lucas County Emergency Medical Services Training Center, 2127 Jefferson Ave., Toledo

**Cost:** \$65 but 90% eligible for reimbursement via CASA. Price includes a box lunch and a book.

**Instructor:** Stephen MacDonald – Certified Bridges Out of Poverty trainer

**To sign up:** <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/bridges-out-of-poverty-training-tickets-521868010267>

**For more information:** Contact Stephen MacDonald [smacdonald@lucasfcfc.org](mailto:smacdonald@lucasfcfc.org) or 419-283-5485.

**Description:** This seminar gives participants a common language, understanding, and tools to prevent and alleviate poverty. Participants increase awareness of how economic class impacts life experience, resources, and stability. Customer service and teamwork in business and community settings are improved. This seminar is based on the book *Bridges Out of Poverty: Strategies for Professionals and Communities*, a collaboration between Ruby K. Payne, Philip DeVol, and Terie Dreussi Smith.

**Black Mental Health**

**\*Rule 48**

**Date:** December 4, 2023

**Time:** Noon – 1:00 pm (1 Credit Hour)

**Place:** Groundwork Ohio Webinar

**Cost:** Free

**Instructor:** Debbie Gingrich, LISW-S, Chief Program Officer, and Ashley Glass, MPH,BSN, Maternal Mental Health Program Manager, with Best Point Behavioral Health

**To sign up:** [https://secure.everyaction.com/YhM5ia2Z-kuffW7tyj\\_WFA2?contactdata=ytU6eEHcqS07GvqHJ6AftixlMGAgScNmgozjTYvpLvJivbu+jevJt2dCI8UAAvKqFOQnfcKTT3%2f1ptQ0EgA2irW+qC0aV0YyR8YWe4endF%2fSPzms2+iVOzM7InhWirCjsbJl8a17hrN3oQlGLGifLHF7G7hV5+4Vr6mgC9iJ2khoMaYj8QIC9q9Y0vlcW1cmfFpDc9KeaSXqHVYddtaQsSrnm+%2ftkl7PiyR0VbQnKn4VOM4vgWCTEaEoFnU9yljp00tzZF6uLVZjLnA6S6uRZQ%3d%3d&emci=4c1587d7-ce7c-ee11-b004-00224832eb73&emdi=94a52fb6-fb7e-ee11-8925-00224832e811&ceid=11182142](https://secure.everyaction.com/YhM5ia2Z-kuffW7tyj_WFA2?contactdata=ytU6eEHcqS07GvqHJ6AftixlMGAgScNmgozjTYvpLvJivbu+jevJt2dCI8UAAvKqFOQnfcKTT3%2f1ptQ0EgA2irW+qC0aV0YyR8YWe4endF%2fSPzms2+iVOzM7InhWirCjsbJl8a17hrN3oQlGLGifLHF7G7hV5+4Vr6mgC9iJ2khoMaYj8QIC9q9Y0vlcW1cmfFpDc9KeaSXqHVYddtaQsSrnm+%2ftkl7PiyR0VbQnKn4VOM4vgWCTEaEoFnU9yljp00tzZF6uLVZjLnA6S6uRZQ%3d%3d&emci=4c1587d7-ce7c-ee11-b004-00224832eb73&emdi=94a52fb6-fb7e-ee11-8925-00224832e811&ceid=11182142)

**Description:** The objectives for this training include the following

- Understanding the experience of Black moms,
- Being able to identify warning signs or symptoms that a mom is struggling with mental health, and
- Learning about resources to address maternal mental health.

**Ohio Surrogate Parent Training: Educating Children with Disabilities**

**Ohio Surrogate Parent Training**

**\*Rule 48**

**Date:** Available anytime online

**Time:** 10.75 Total Credit Hours in 7 Modules

**Place:** Webinar

**Cost:** Free

**Instructor:** Ohio Department of Education

**To sign up:** <https://ohiosurrogateparent.org/>

**Description:** Ohio Surrogate Parent Training will serve as a guide to the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEA) and Ohio's special education rules in Chapter 3301-51-09, 11, and 21 of the Ohio Administrative Code. If you want to learn about IEP's (Individual Education Plans) for children with disabilities, this is the training for you. If you complete the training and are appointed as the Surrogate Parent for your CASA child, you will be eligible to help make educational decisions for your CASA kids. If you complete the training and never want to serve as a Surrogate Parent under the statute, that is fine; just say no if you are ever called and asked to serve.

The training has seven independent modules:

Introduction	Estimated time to complete: 45 minutes
Module 1: Surrogate Parent Responsibilities	Estimated time to complete: 1 hour
Module 2: Defining Terms and Responsibilities	Estimated time to complete: 1 ½ hours
Module 3: Children and Parent Rights	Estimated time to complete: 1 ½ hours
Module 4: The Special Education Process – Part 1	Estimated time to complete: 1 ½ hours

Module 5: The Special Education Process – Part 2  
Module 6: Additional Specific Requirements – Part 1  
Module 7: Additional Specific Requirements – Part 2

Estimated time to complete: 2 ½ hours  
Estimated time to complete: 1 hour  
Estimated time to complete: 1 hour

## ***National Children’s Advocacy Center: Available online, anytime:***

### **Why Parents Don’t 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:** 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.

### **Avoiding Vicarious Trauma and Burnout**

**\*Rule 48**

**Date:** Available anytime online

**Time:** 1.5 Credit Hours

**Place:** Webinar

**Cost:** Free

**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.

### **Building Strong Brains: Tennessee’s ACE (Adverse Childhood Experiences) Initiative**

**\*Rule 48**

**Date:** Available anytime online

**Time:** 1 Credit Hour

**Place:** Webinar

**Cost:** Free

**Instructor:** Cary Rayson, MSW

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

**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, PhD, 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 Althausser, 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 Althausser, 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 Althausser, 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 Althausser, 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?

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