

Approved Training

NVFS Foster Care

There have been several requests for clarification on training hours. Each parent in the home is required to obtain 24 hours of ongoing training a year. Below is a list of approved training.

- Watching a movie (this means a TV or big screen movie such as *White Oleander* or *I Am Sam*, *Lifetime movie*, etc.) that relates to foster/respice care or to specific diagnosis or problems that may face foster/respice children. You will receive one hour for watching a movie. Your worker should approve the movie. Document the name of the movie.
- Watching a video/documentary/TV special that relates to foster/respice care or to specific diagnosis or problems that may face foster/respice children. You will receive the time of the video or documentary. If the video or documentary is 30 minutes you will receive 30 minutes of training. Document the name of the video, documentary, or TV special.
- Reading a book that relates to foster/respice care or to a specific diagnosis or problems that may face foster/respice children. You will receive a ½ hour of training for every 50 pages read. A book with 200 pages equates to 2 hours of training, etc. Document the name and author of the book.
- Reading an article in a magazine or on the internet that relates to foster/respice care or to specific diagnosis or problems that may face foster/respice children. This will count for 30 minutes of training. Document the name of the article and what source or website you read the article from.
- On-line training. There are certain sites that provide training for free and/or for a minimal fee. If the training session is one hour you will receive one hour of training. Document the name of the training you participated in and the website that provided the training.
- Therapy sessions. If there is a child in your home who attends therapy you may count the time you meet with the therapist as training time if they are reviewing techniques, behavior plans, etc. with you. You can count the full time you are meeting with the therapist. This normally ranges between 10-20 minutes. Document the dates of the therapy sessions you attended and how long you participated in the session.
- CPR and First Aid count as 4 hours of training each.
- CST (Child Specific Team) meetings count as training for the time they lasted. So if the meeting lasts two hours you will receive two hours of training. Document the date of the CST.
- Any training (speaker or class) that relates to children in foster/respice care or to specific diagnosis or problems that foster/respice children may face. You will receive training time for the time you attended training. If you attend a one-hour training you will receive one hour of training. Document the training topic, presenter and date of training.
- Any training (speaker or class) that will improve your skills in handling the unique issues of foster/respice children. If you attend a one-hour training then you

will receive one hour of training. Document the training topic, presenter and date of training.

- SFC support group. This counts for 1.5 hours of training unless the support group time goes over and the worker approves the class as longer.
- Presenting training at an SFC support group. This counts for 2.5 hours of training.
- Meetings. Any meeting that involves the discussion of the child's needs and behaviors, with another member or the treatment team, (ex. teacher, SFC worker, county worker, etc.) and works on a plan to address these needs. If the meeting is one hour you can receive one hour of training time. Document the date and type of meeting that occurred.
- Attending court. If you have to attend court for a child in your care then you may count the time you are in court (for your child) as training. Document the date of court and the time you participated in the court hearing.
- Collateral contacts with spouses. If you are the primary caregiver for a child and there is a meeting regarding a child in your care you may count the discussion you have with your spouse regarding the meeting as training for that spouse. The time of the discussion would equal the time counted for training. A 30-minute discussion would allow your spouse to receive 30 minutes of training.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO KEEP YOUR WORKER UP TO DATE REGARDING YOUR TRAINING HOURS SO WE CAN ENSURE YOU RECEIVE CREDIT!

I am open to additions to this list as well as feedback. We want guidelines for consistency but we also want to accommodate the hectic and demanding schedules of our foster and respite parents. If you experience one worker approving something for training that another worker will not approve, please bring it to my attention. I will present the situation to the Treatment Team for discussion.

Please do not hesitate to ask your worker or contact me with questions as to whether something can count as training. Always ask... you never know what we may not have thought of!

My contact information:

Ginny Snaider

793/96: /4779

gsnaider@nvfs.org