

Guided Learning Development Plan

Instructions:

- 1) At the completion of the Guided Learning, the learner will rate each of the competencies below for each of the 5 Sessions on a scale of 1-5 (see key below).
- 2) The learner and facilitator will meet to review the learner's ratings focusing on areas that the learner has rated a 1, 2 or 3. Together with the facilitator, they will identify additional resources, methods, etc. for the learner to improve his/her knowledge and confidence in that area. For example, if the learner rates themselves as a "2" (I have little confidence in my knowledge in this area) for the competency in Session 1 that reads: "I can describe some outcomes of experiences of children living in foster care," the development plan could be for the learner to review the relevant slides from Session 1, and for the facilitator to recommend some additional resources for the learner to read from their Session 1 Resource list.
- 3) The facilitator can use this development plan to check in occasionally on the volunteer to see if their self-ratings have changed and to ensure that they are receiving the continuing education they need to be successful in their volunteer role.

Scale

- 5 – I am fully knowledgeable and confident in this area
- 4 – I am mostly knowledgeable and confident in this area
- 3 – I am partly knowledgeable and confident in this area
- 2 – I have little confidence in my knowledge in this area
- 1 – I have no confidence in my knowledge in this area

Session 1: Introduction

Competencies	Learner's rating (1-5)	Development Plan
I can describe how the CASA/GAL Volunteer program was started		
I can describe the mission of the CASA/GAL Volunteer program		
I can describe when there is a need for a CASA/GAL Volunteer to be assigned to the case		
I can describe some outcomes and experiences of children living in foster care		
I can explain what CAPTA stands for and why it is an important law		
I can describe the reasons why children are removed from their homes and placed in foster care		
I can describe some ways a CASA/GAL Volunteer can impact a child's life		
I can describe in general terms how a case begins		
I can describe some general things to consider in my role as a CASA/GAL Volunteer		
I can describe the essential advocacy skills needed by a CASA/GAL Volunteer		

Session 2: The Bleux Case

Competencies	Learner's rating (1-5)	Development Plan
I can recall 1-2 developmental milestones for each age and stage of a child's development		
I can describe in what type of situations children should be removed from their parents		
I can explain the importance of attachment, especially in a child's earliest years of life		
I can name and describe the four types of trauma		
I can describe the importance of good note taking		
I can list some of the people who are involved in a child's case		
I can explain why it is important to use a strength-based approach to interacting with families		

I can describe the concept of “effective permanency planning” and the different options of permanency outcomes		
I can describe the permanency option of “kinship guardianship”		
I can explain what is “concurrent planning”		

Session 3: The Greene Case

Competencies	Learner’s rating (1-5)	Development Plan
I can describe how poverty impacts families and children		
I can describe why there is a higher rate of poor children in the child welfare system		
I can describe the difference between poverty and neglect		
I can describe how mental health issues aren’t always addressed in families who live in poverty		

I can describe the difference between open-ended and close-ended questions and in what cases it is beneficial to use either of these questions		
I can name the skills needed to conduct a productive interview		
I can name some tips for interviewing children and adolescents		
I can complete the interview assignment and explain to the facilitator the decision making around the questions selected		

Session 4: The Amarillo Case

Competencies	Learner's rating (1-5)	Development Plan
I can describe the impacts of addiction on families and children		
I can describe the impacts of domestic violence on families and children		
I can describe the educational challenges that children and youth experience		

I can describe how mental health issues aren't always addressed in families who live in poverty		
I can describe the process and importance of permanency planning for older youth		
I can name the protective factors needed by older youth to thrive		

Session 5: The Redd Case

Competencies	Learner's rating (1-5)	Development Plan
I can write a thorough summary of the case to by using interview notes, case notes, etc.		
I can makes appropriate recommendations for all involved parties e.g., child(ren), parent(s), etc. that are supported by evidence outlined in the summary		
I can identify placement recommendations that reflects the summary and recommendations and why it is in the best interest of the child.		
I am ready to take on my role as a volunteer advocate.		

