# Introduction to DCS

5.9.2023



## Unit One Introductions





## Personal Introductions

- Name
- Position
- Region/County
- Educational Background
- Past Work Experience

Please Stand





## Agenda

Classroom Training

Presentations

Poverty Simulation



## Comfort Rules

Guide our work as individuals and as a group.

- What do you need to be comfortable participating in training?
- What do you need to have a successful week of learning?





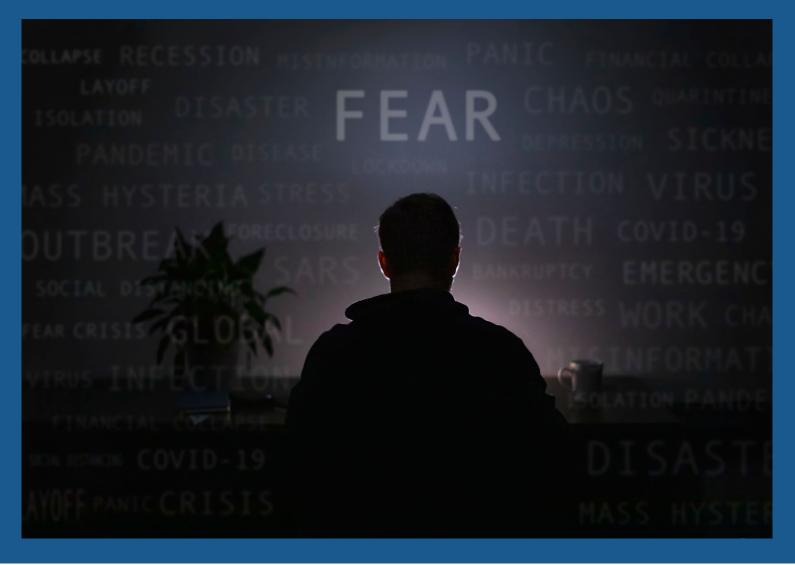
# Learning Objectives

- Gain experience with presentations
- Gain knowledge of executive leadership roles
- Be introduced to the Pre-Service Process
- Receive an overview of DCS
- Gain understanding of the Practice Wheel, and how to move cases forward
- Gain knowledge on Mandated Reporting and Protective Authority
- Experience poverty through simulation
- Receive and process information on bias in Child Welfare
- Be introduced to the family case scenario



# Hopes and Fears







# Employee Assistance Program (EAP)



Available 24/7

Always Confidential

Master's Level Specialists

Trained to help you find the right solutions for you

Can connect you with a variety of resources and benefits



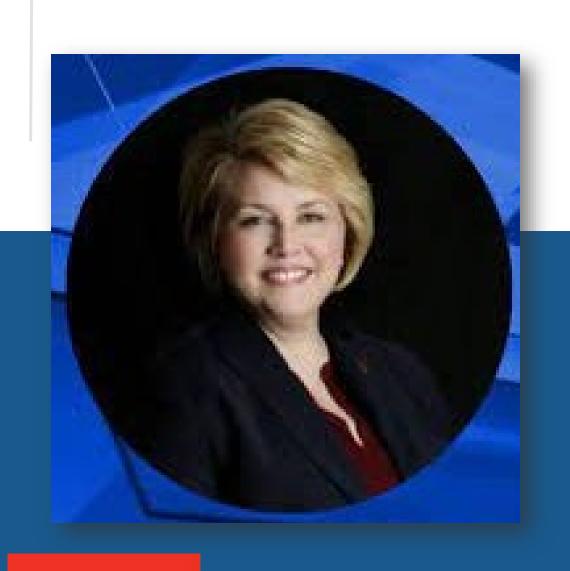
855-Here 4TN (855-437-3486)



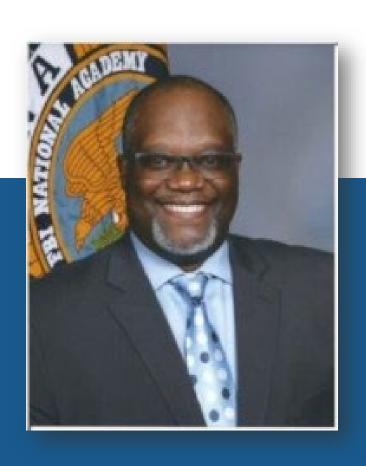
www.here4tn.com

Live Chat: M-F 8:30-3:00 CT

## Executive Leadership Team



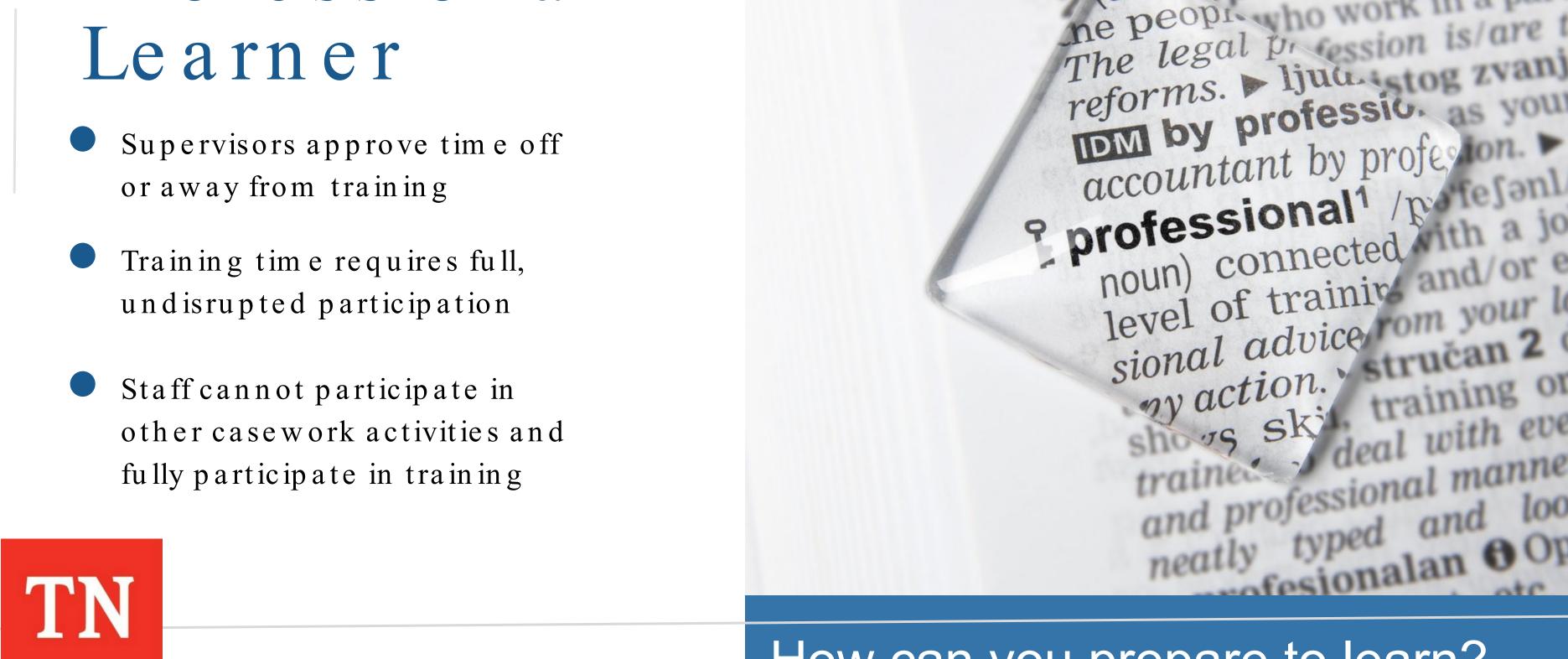








## The Professional Learner





How can you prepare to learn?

of entering the

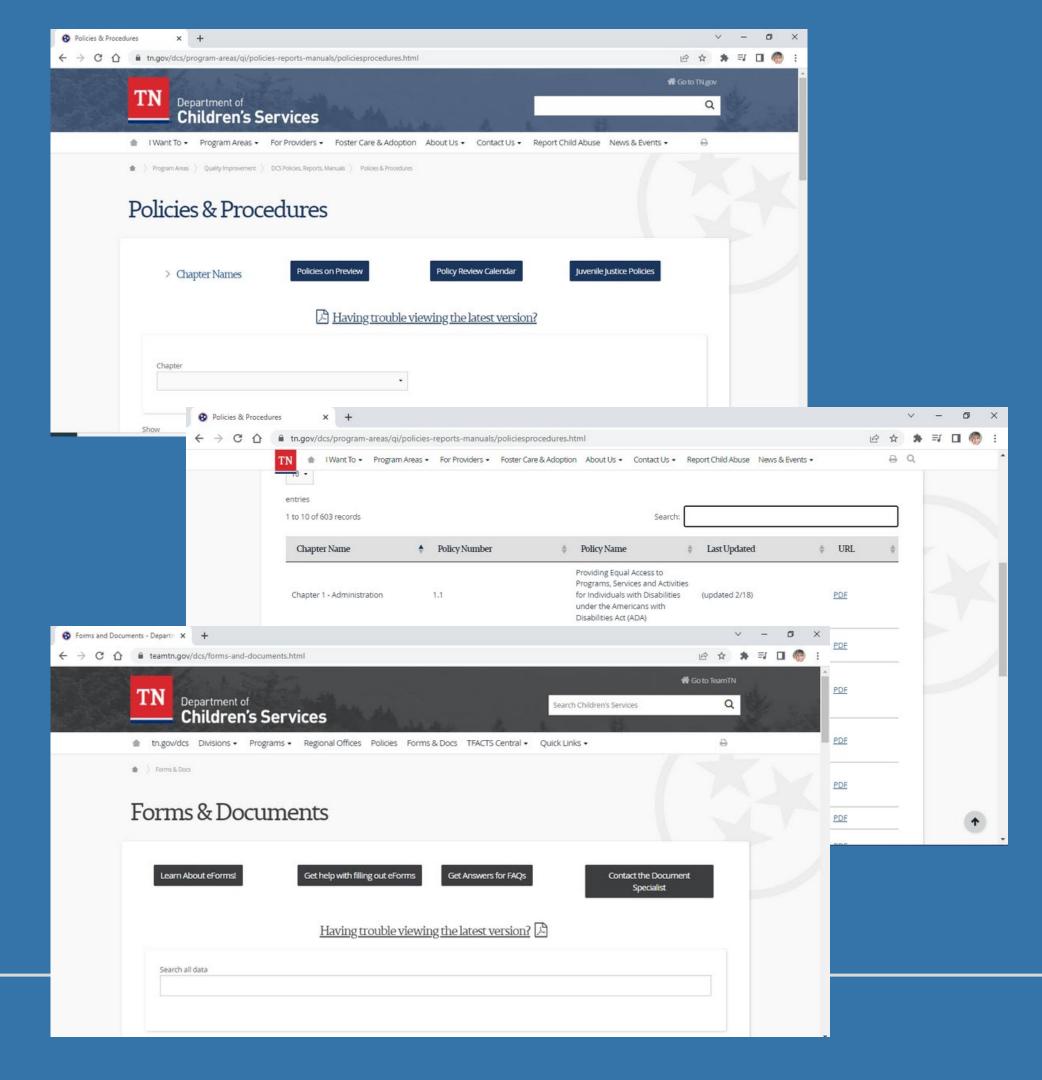
ne peopreyho work in a part

# DCS Policy and Forms

https://www.teamtn.gov/dcs

- Chapter 13: Juvenile Justice Regional Services
- Chapter 14: Child Protective Services
- Chapter 16 A: Foster Care





## Google Classroom



- Go to: google.com/accounts/NewAccount
- Type in your DCS email address in the "Your current email address" field
- Type a password for your Google Account
  - This must be at least 8 characters in length and should include a mixture of letters and numbers
- Re-enter this password in the "re-enter password field"
- Select your location by clicking the drop-down menu next to "Location"
- Type in your birthday and verification code under "Word Verification"
- Click "I accept. Create my account"
- Log in to your DCS email. Open the email from Google regarding your new account. Click the confirmation link in the email.



Week 1: Orientation

Week 2: Introduction to DCS

Week 3: On the Job Training

Week 4: On the Job Training

Week 5: CORE-Foundations of

Child Welfare

Week 6: CORE-Foundations of

Child Welfare

Week 7: On the Job Training

Week 8: On the Job Training

Week 9: Specialty Week 1

Week 10: Specialty Week 2

Week 11: On the Job Training

Week 12: On the Job Training

Week 13: Simulation Lab-Walk

Thru; Knock at the Door

Week 14: On the Job Training

Week 15: On the Job Training

Week 16: Simulation Lab

Week 17: Co-Lead; Assessment

Week 18: Co-Lead

Week 19: Co-Lead

Week 20: Lead

Week 21: Lead

Week 22: Assessment; Independent

Case Work

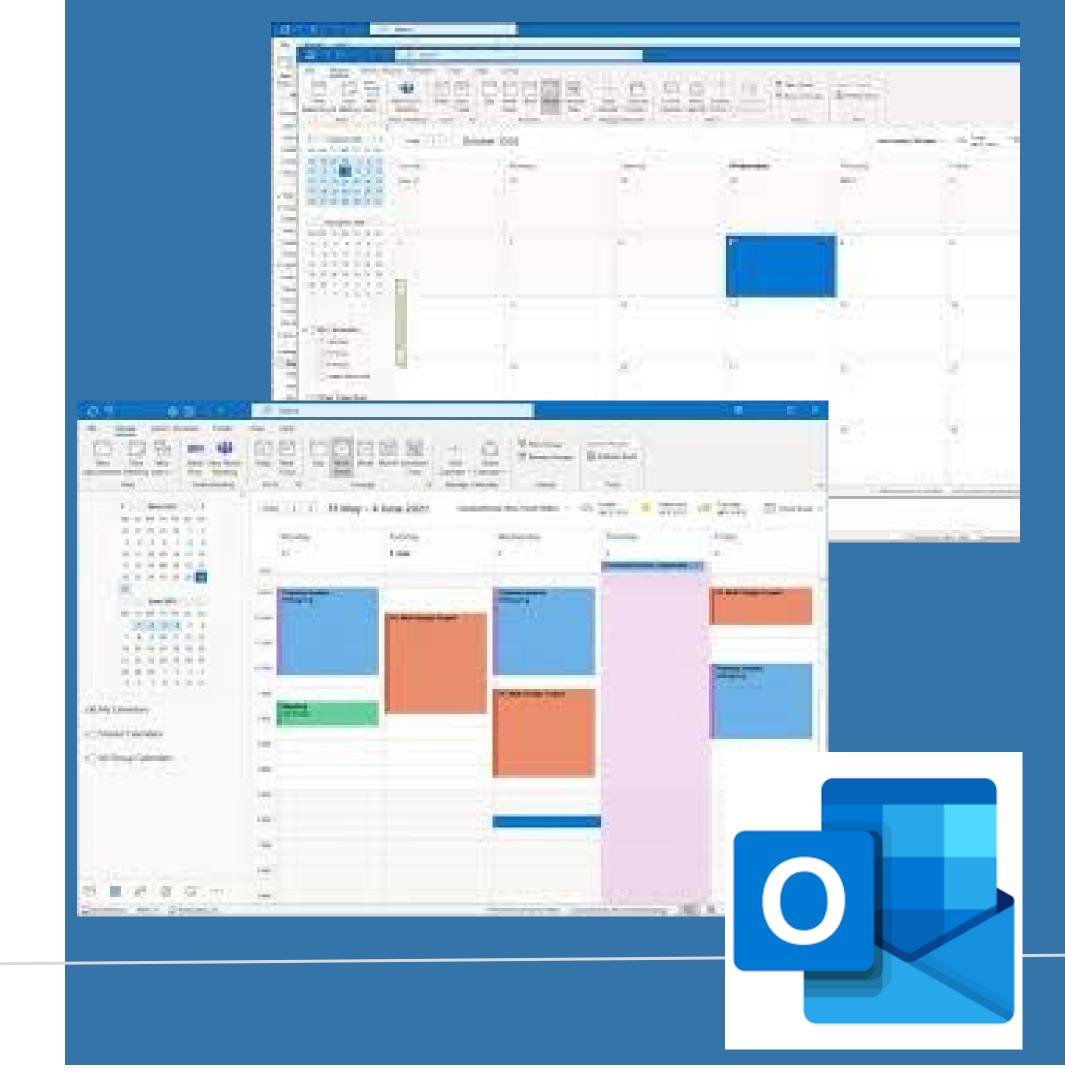
Week 23: Independent Case Work

Week 24: Certification

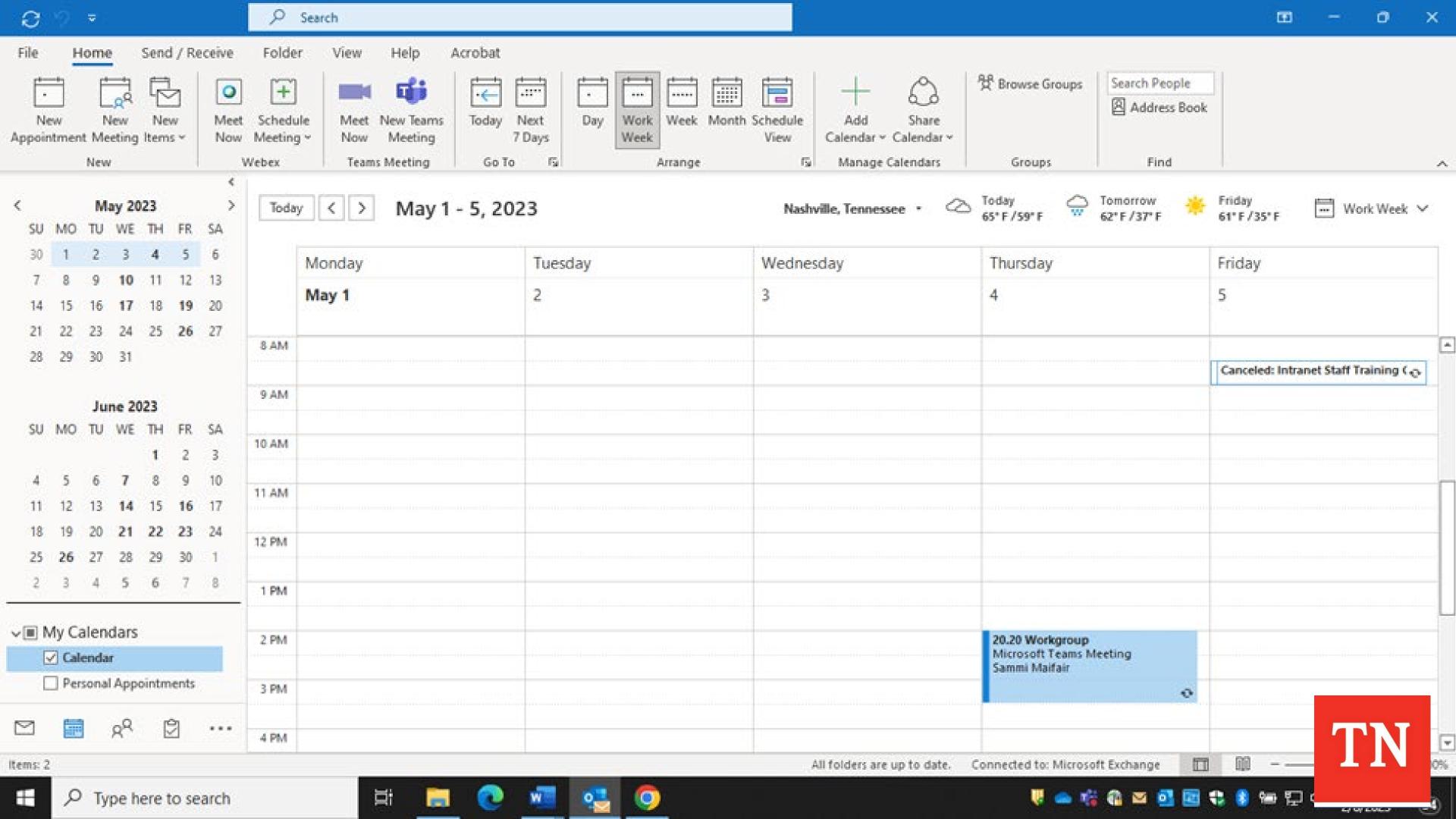


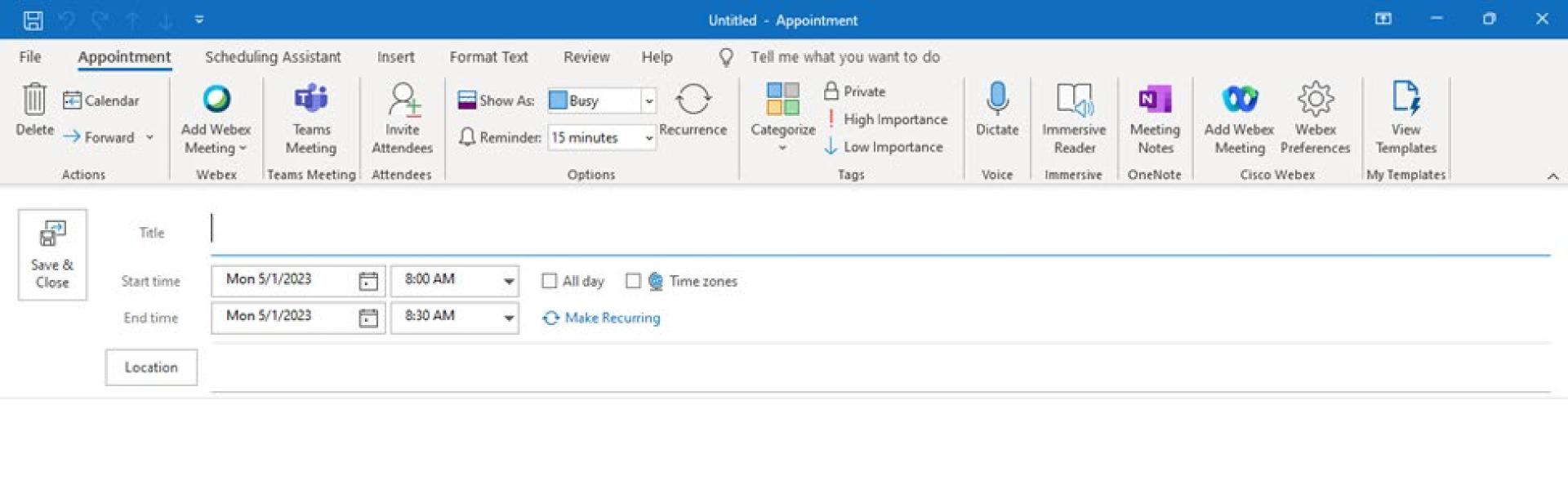
### Outlook Calendar

- Appointments
- Meetings
- Trainings









In Shared Folder 🖒 Calendar









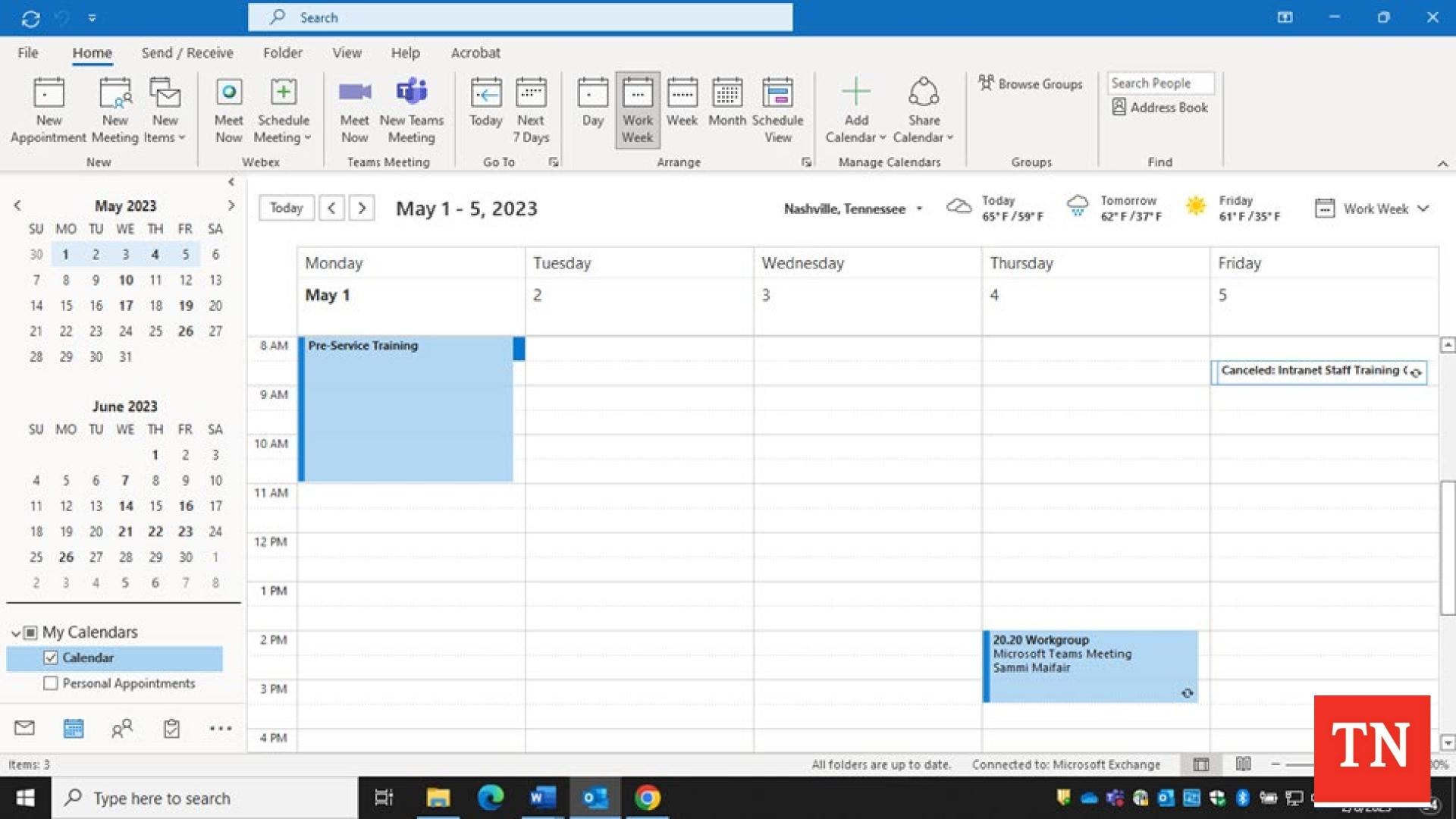


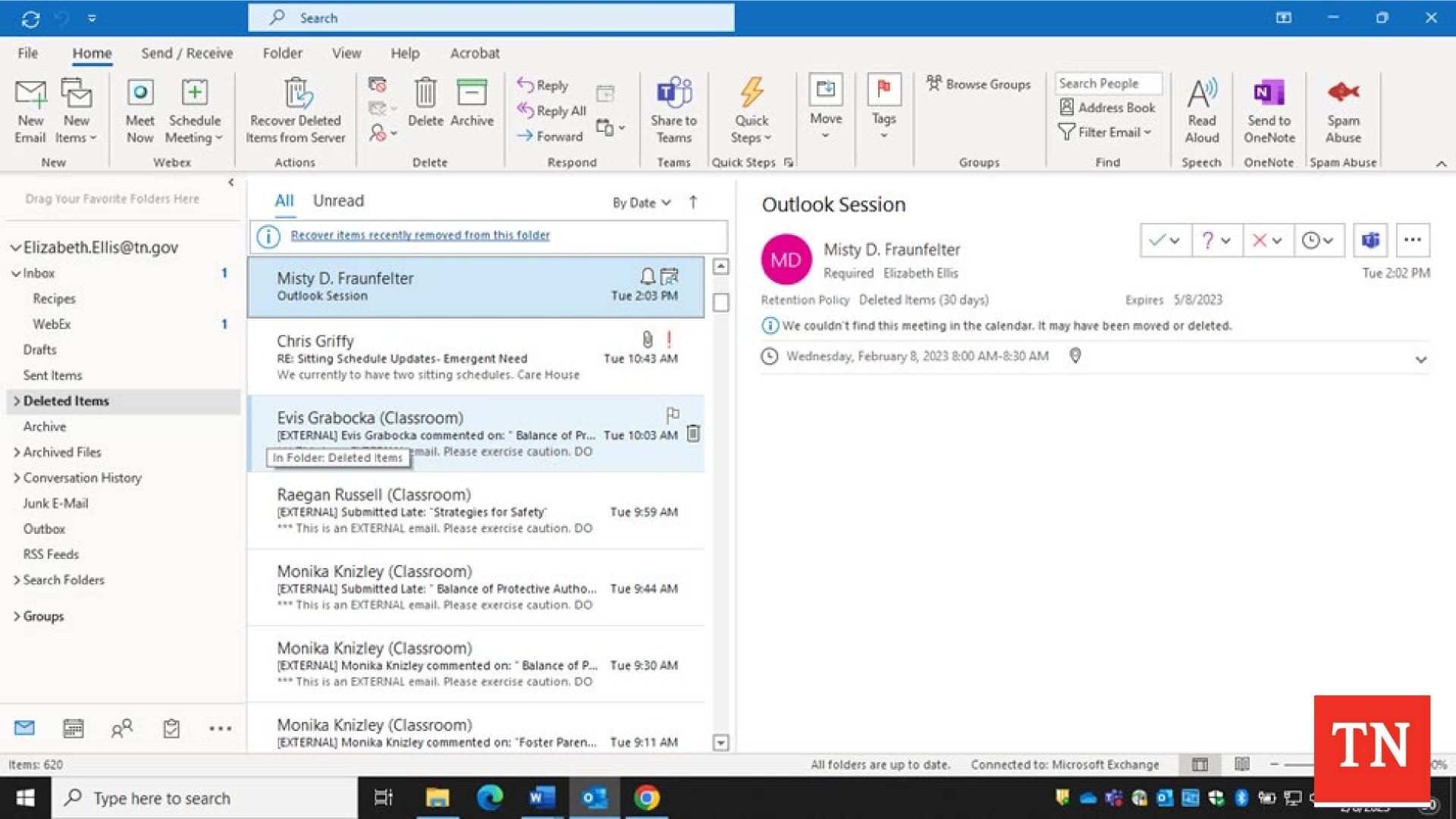


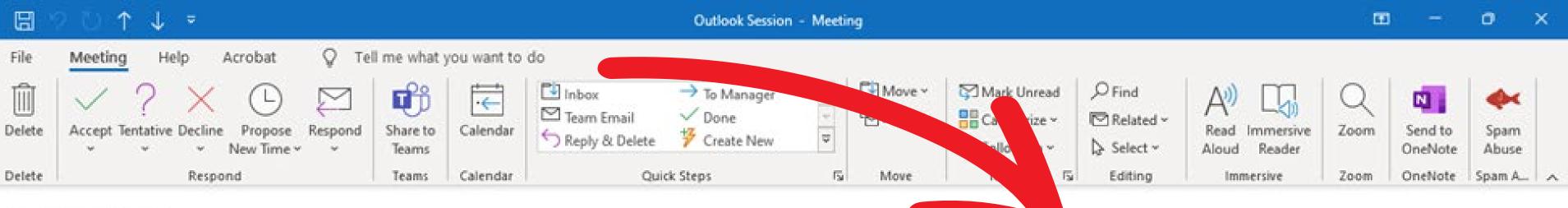












#### **Outlook Session**



Retention Policy 90 Day Delete (90 days)

Expires 5/8/2023

✓ Accept ∨

(i) This meeting has been adjusted to reflect your current time zone. It was initially created in the following time zone: (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada).

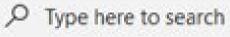




Q)

Tue 2/7/2023 2:02 PM

















7 Tentative v

X Decline v









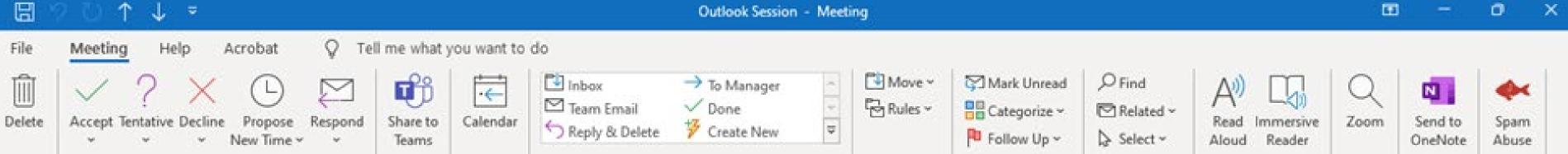


Propose New Time ∨









150

Move

150

Tags

Editing

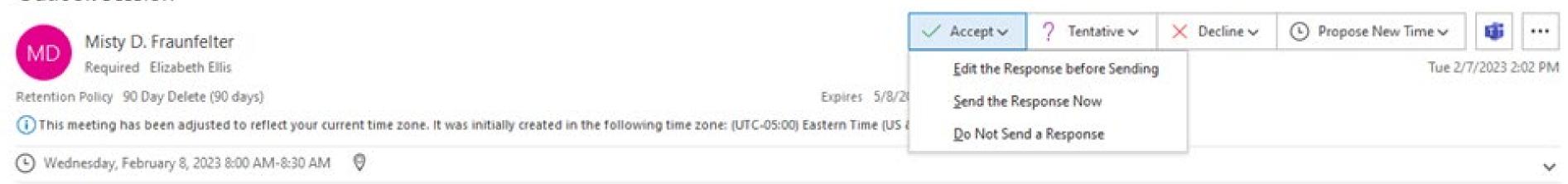
**Immersive** 

Quick Steps

#### **Outlook Session**

Delete

Respond















Calendar

Teams











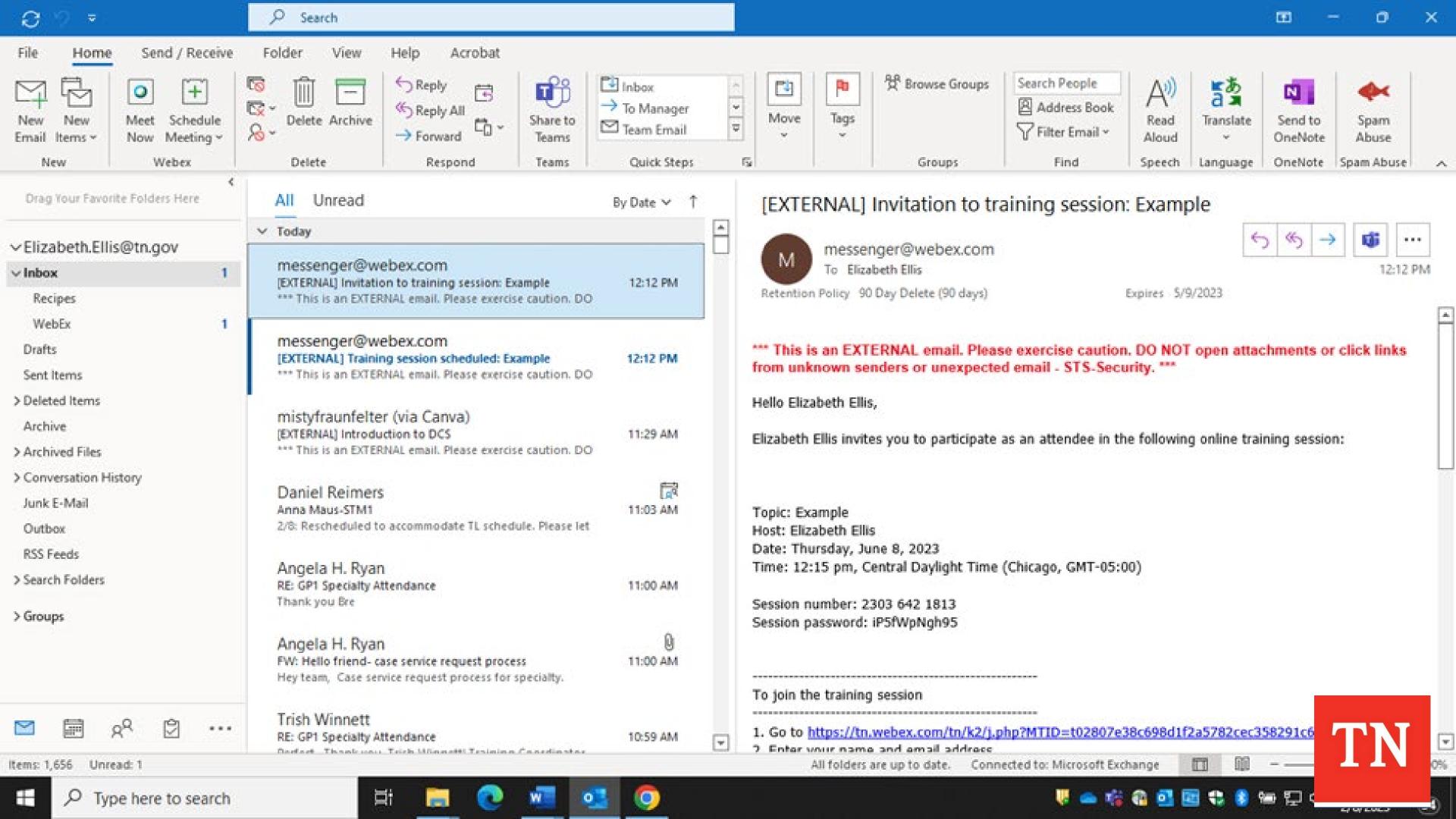




OneNote

Spam A. A

Zoom



Expires 5/9/2023

#### [EXTERNAL] Invitation to training session: Example





\*\*\* This is an EXTERNAL email. Please exercise caution. DO NOT open attachments or click links from unknown senders or unexpected email - STS-Security. \*\*\*

Hello Elizabeth Ellis,

Elizabeth Ellis invites you to participate as an attendee in the following online training session:

Topic: Example Host: Elizabeth Ellis

Date: Thursday, June 8, 2023

Time: 12:15 pm, Central Daylight Time (Chicago, GMT-05:00)

Session number: 2303 642 1813 Session password: iP5fWpNqh95

To join the training session

- Go to https://tn.webex.com/tn/k2/j.php?MTID=t02807e38c698d1f2a5782cec358291c6
- 2. Enter your name and email address.
- 3. Enter the session password: iP5fWpNgh95

.....

4. Click "Join Now".

































#### [EXTERNAL] Invitation to training session: Example



Expires 5/9/2023

Wed 2/8/2023 12:12 PM

Reply

(6) Reply All

-> Forward

Global call-in numbers: https://tn.webex.com/tn/globalcallin.php?MTID=te6dcaaefe3c9d3fec8c5e3b1ddaadd5f

Access code: 2303 642 1813

For assistance

You can contact Elizabeth Ellis at:

elizabeth.ellis@tn.gov

1-6153604389

Can't join the training session?

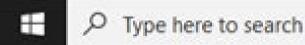
https://collaborationhelp.cisco.com/article/qg8vzfb

To add this session to your calendar program (for example Microsoft Outlook), click this link:

https://tn.webex.com/tn/k2/j.php?MTID=t4179d704749a99dec35d85a7661bfefd

#### https://www.webex.com

IMPORTANT NOTICE: This Webex service includes a feature that allows audio and any documents and other materials exchanged or viewed during the session to be recorded. By joining this session, you aution to be recorded. By joining this session, you aution to be recorded and any documents and other materials exchanged or viewed during the session to be recorded. By joining this session, you aution to be recorded and any documents and other materials exchanged or viewed during the session to be recorded. By joining this session, you aution to be recorded and any documents and other materials exchanged or viewed during the session to be recorded. By joining this session, you aution to be recorded and any documents and other materials exchanged or viewed during the session to be recorded. By joining this session, you aution to be recorded as a feature that allows a property and the session of the s consent to such recordings. If you do not consent to the recording, discuss your concerns with the meeting host prior to the start of the recording or do not join the session. Please note that any such recording subject to discovery in the event of litigation.















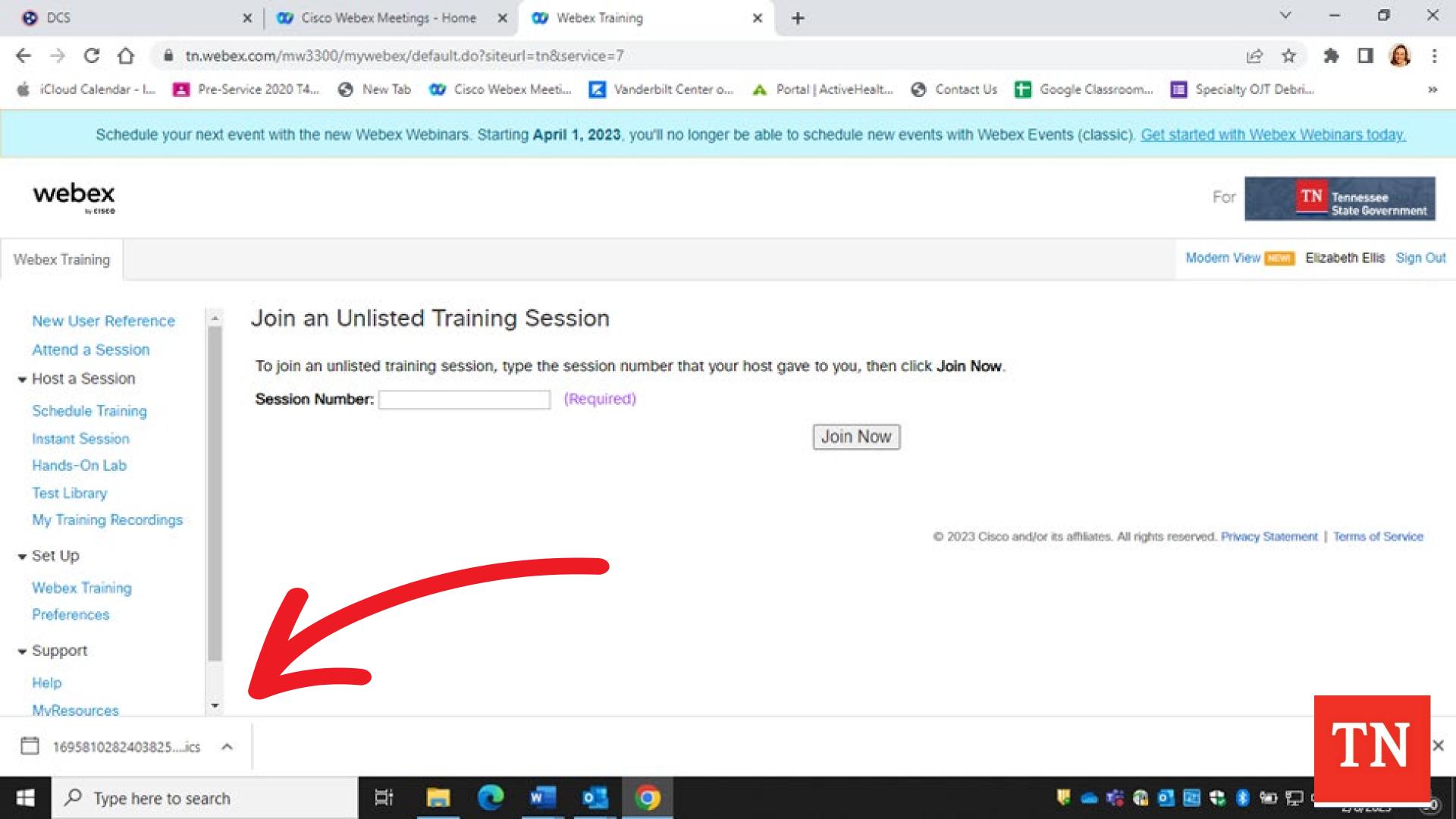


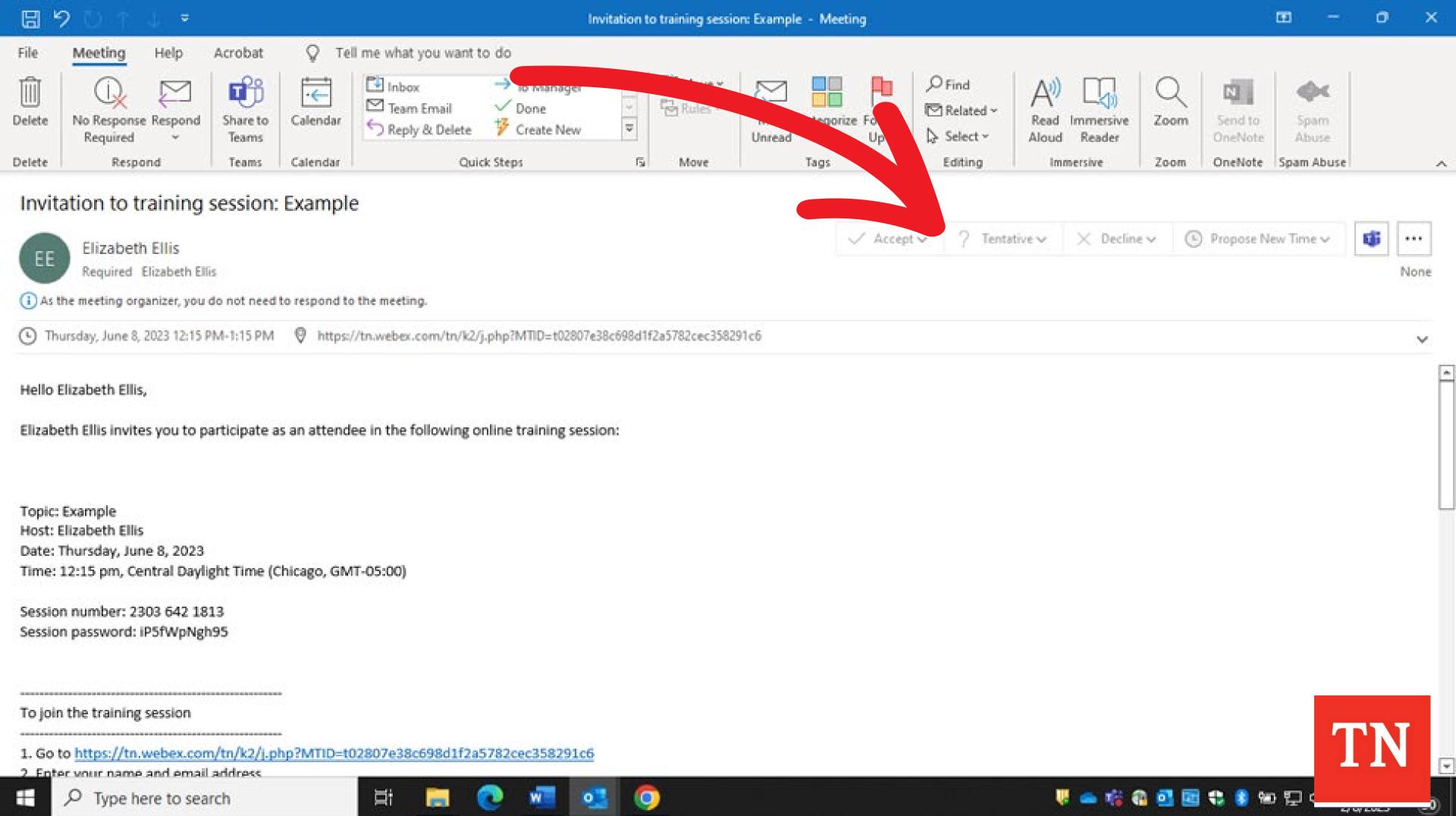












# Unit Two DCS Overview



# DCS Mission and Vision

Vision
Children first!

#### Mission

Act in the best interest of Tennessee's children and youth.



### Values

Integrity: Ethical Conduct.

Trauma Responsive: Realize, Recognize, Respond, and Resist Re-Traumatization.

Do Good: When Children Succeed, We Succeed.

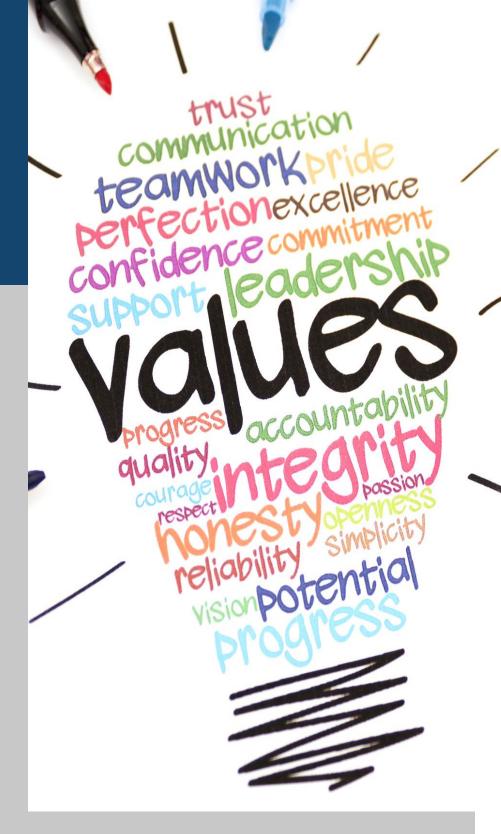
Partnership: Collaborating for Better Outcomes.



# Personal Values

A person's principles or standards of behavior; one's judgment of what is important in life.





What personal values brought you to work in Child Welfare?





## Child Welfare Values

We believe all children deserve a safe, stable and nurturing environment to grow and develop.

We strive to differentiate between the person and the behavior. We believe all children have a right to safety.

We approach people with acceptance, openness, and transparency to help them achieve change.

We believe families are the experts of their own lives.

Every fam ily has the right to be treated with dignity and respect.

We always
work towards
fam ily
preservation.
We believe in
Fam ilyCentered
Practice.



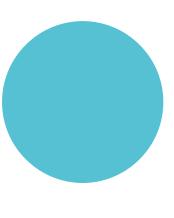
### DCS believes...

- Children do best at home.
- Families can be strengthened and successful.
- Children deserve a forever family.
- Well-Being matters.



### Values Review

How may your personal values impact your work with children and families?



Why is it important to follow DCS values even if they do not coincide with our own.



# DCS Themes



Strengths-Based

Family-Centered

Culturally Responsive







Mandate involvement and intervention with families.

Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA, 1974)

Defined child abuse and neglect. Established state reporting law. Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA, 1978)

Gives exclusive jurisdiction to tribes over any child custody proceeding involving an Indian child who lives in or is domiciled in the reservation of that tribe or is a ward of a tribal court.





#### Adoption Assistance and Child Welfare Act (1980)

Requires CPS to make reasonable efforts to avoid unnecessary removal of children from their homes and to reunify foster children with their families whenever possible. (Reasonable Efforts)

## Adoption and Safe Families Act(ASFA, 1997)

Requires timely permanency plan and emphasizes the child's safety is the paramount concerns.



### Federal Laws

Provide DCS with the ability to intevene with families, create accountability and uniformity in interactions with children and families and serve as guidelines for best practice.

Families First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA, 2018)

Provides provisions to enhance support services for families to help children remain in their homes, reduce unnecessary use of congregate care, and build capacity of communities to support children and families.

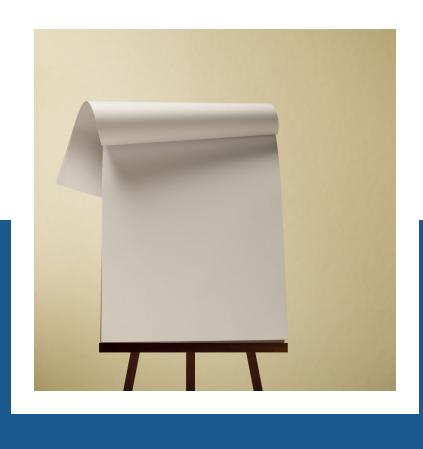
Why is it important to be aware of laws that impact child welfare?



# Safety, Permanency, Well-Being



What does Safety mean to you?



What does Permanency mean to you?



What does Well-Being mean to you?



Permanency

Stability
Relationships
Attachments
Long-Term View
Permanent
Connections

Safety

Substance Use
Child
Maltreatment
Domestic
Violence

Well-Being

Current functioning
Parenting Capabilities
Education
Employment
Physical Health
Mental Health



Continuum of Maltreatment and Parenting Practices

Fatality

Risk

Child

Maltreatment

Sa fe En o u g h

Safety

Enriched

Child's Basic Needs Met

ΓN

Essential
Safety
Questions

Is the child safe at home?

If not, what alternative exist to ensure safety?

If not, are there services that would ensure safety in the home?



### The Practice Model

- A set of guidelines that capture the organizational, values, structures, mechanisms, tools, and skills needed to successfully implement the mission of the Department.
- It is driven by DCS's overarching mission, vision, values, and professional ethics.
- It represents DCS's expectations for best practices in serving children and families, internal and external partners, and the general public in Tennessee.





# The Practice Wheel

A model for family-centered practice that has at its core 6 key functions.

Involves a strength's based, family-centered, and culturally competent approach to evidence-based best practice.



## Activity

- Take a marker
- Walk around to each flip chart
- List words that describe each spoke of the Practice Wheel





#### What is it?

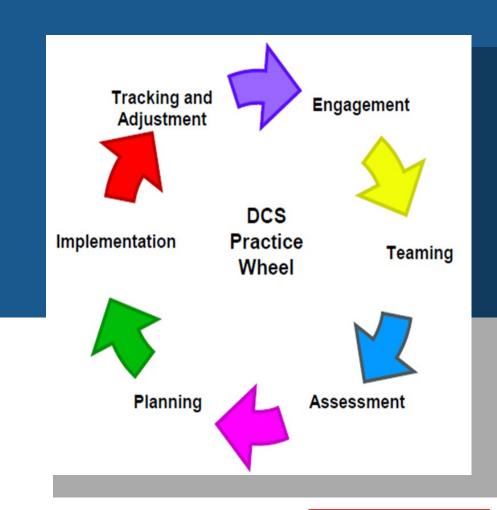
The framework for DCS casework methods.

# How do you use it?

Used as a collaborative approach that engages the family in a partnership to make change.

# Why is it important?

Successful interventions must reduce risk factors and promote protective factors (strengths) to ensure safety, permanency and well-being.







# Mandate d Reporting

- What stood out?
- What is one new thing you learned?
- What is one thing you already knew?



# T.C.A 37-1-403 (A) (1):

"Any person who has knowledge of or is called upon to render aid to any child who is suffering from or has sustained any wound, injury, disability, or physical or mental condition shall report such harm immediately if the harm is of such a nature as to reasonably indicate that it has been caused by brutality, abuse, or neglect or that, on the basis of available information, reasonably appears to have been caused by brutality, abuse or neglect."



# Child Abuse Hotline Information:



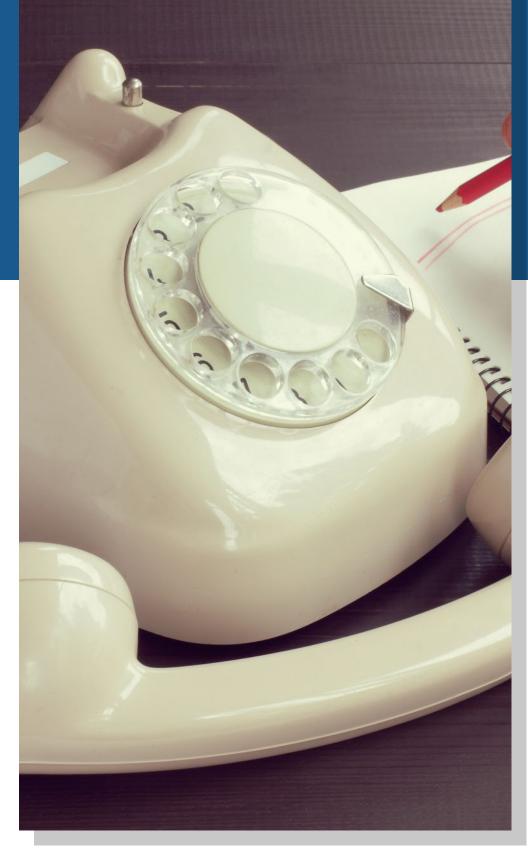
- PUBLIC Hotline:
- 1.877.237.0004
- 1.877.54ABUSE
- Case Manager Hotline:
- 1.877.237.0034
- Legal/Medical Hotline:
- 1.877.237.0026
- K-12 School Staff:
- 1.855.209.4226
- Non-emergency:
- apps.tn.gov/carat



### Sharing Information

- Name
- County/Region
- Your Specialized Team
- Do you have an open case? If so, TFACTS Case
   ID is needed
- Household Participants







## Protective Authority

The application of helping skills and assertive strategies that results in a partnership between the child welfare professional and the family.



TN

# Collaboration Protection Safety

**Authenticity + wisdom+ engagement** 

- + reflection + adaptation + participation
- = trust, loyalty, and authority

Brian Solis

The goal is to collaborate with the family to resolve concerns and promote safety. The use of protective authority should be limited; an employed only when necessary to protect children from immediate harm.

### Engagement

Striving for collaboration, not cooperation.

Collaboration implies the family is engaged in a partnership to make changes.



#### Practice

Low, Moderate, and High Authority

- What barriers might you run into trying to apply balanced protective authority
- What potential solutions do you envision to deal with these barriers
  - What will you put into practice from what you learned?









# Protective Authority Summary

#### Develop Collaboration

Joint problem identification, joint goal setting and desired outcomes, and discussion

#### Explained in nonthreatening manner

The way a worker informs the family can contribute to whether it is considered a threat

#### Use should be LIMITED

Indicated only when necessary to protect children from immediate serious harm

#### Can be used to motivate

In these circumstances, worker's authority must be presented and explained in a calm, factual manner



# Unit Three Working with Families

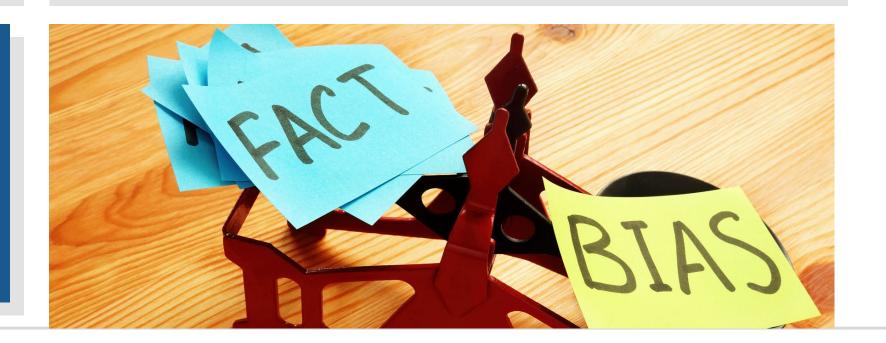


### Bias in Child Welfare

Define Bias

What are possible biases in child welfare?

How can bias in fluence your work with families?





## Un c o n s c i o u s B i a s



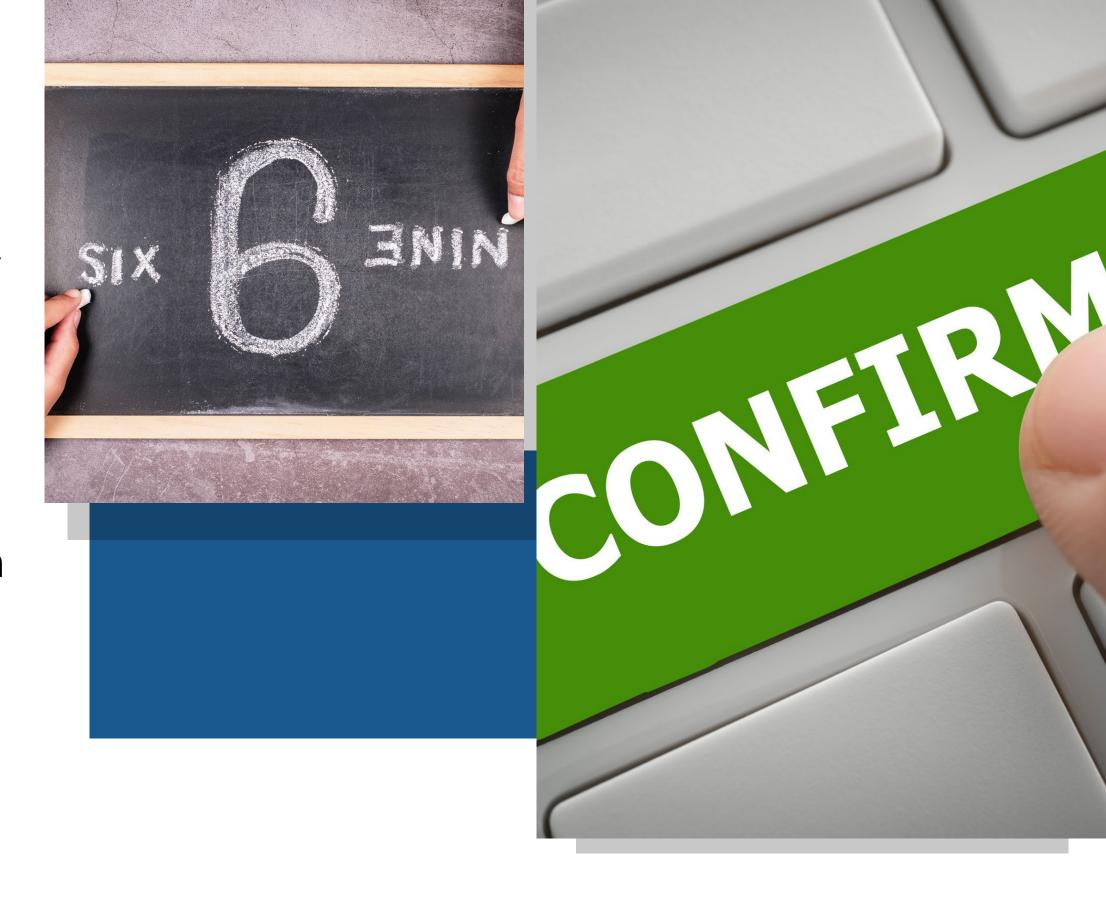
Where do our biases come from?

How aware are we of our own biases?

Why is implicit bias dangerous in Child Welfare Practice?

### Confirm ation Bias

The tendency to interpret new evidence as confirmation of one's existing beliefs or theories.

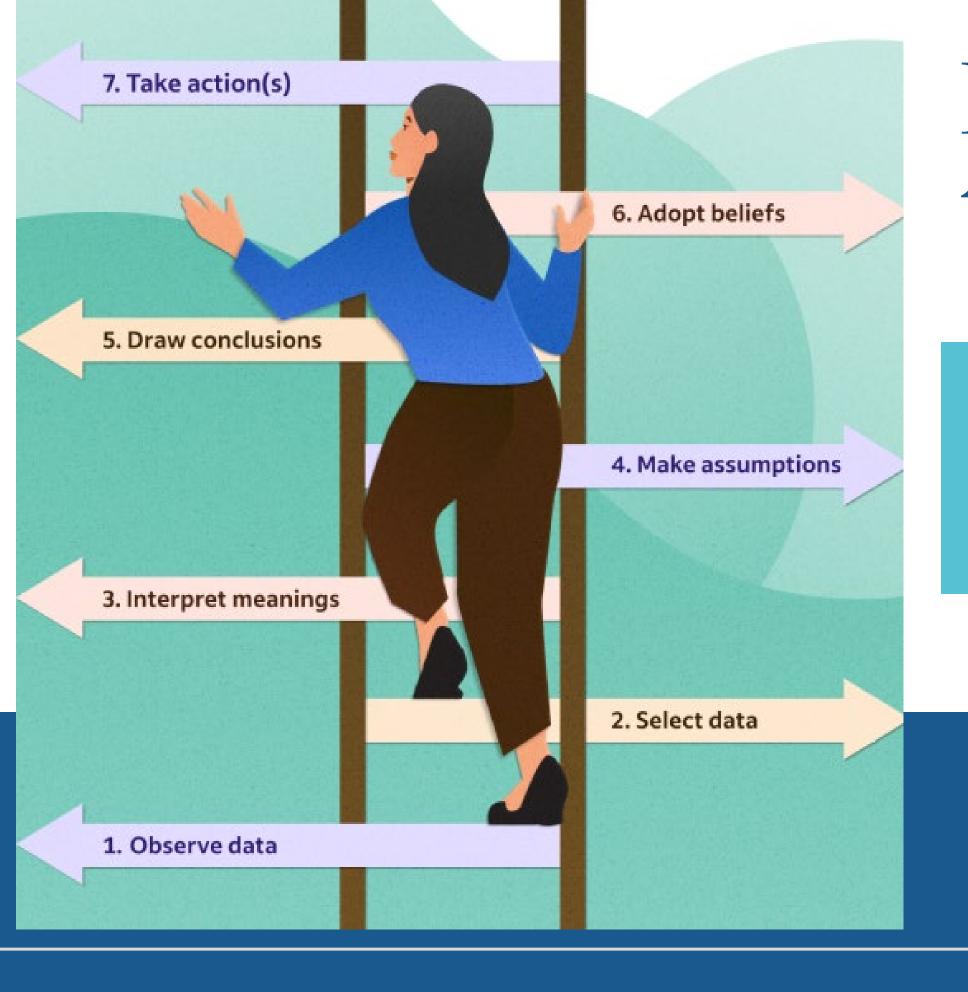




### Ladder of Inference

A tool for helping individuals and teams to avoid reacting based on assumptions and inferences, rather than observable and tested data.





### Moving up the ladder

#### Resources

- Ladder of Inference
- Bias in the Child Welfare
   System

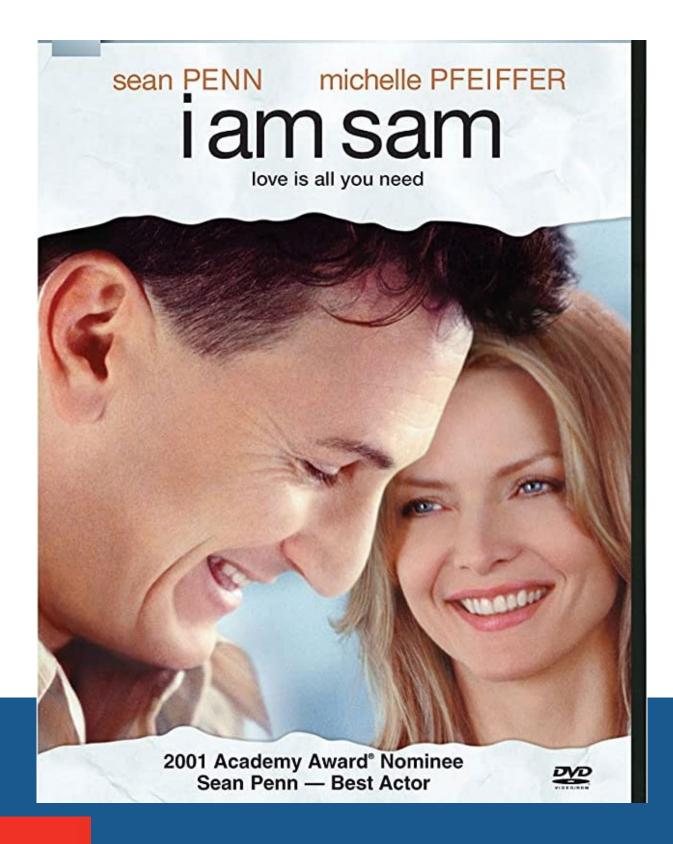


# Climbing Downthe ladder



# How do we climb down the ladder?

- Make thinking visible to others
- Invite others to test assumptions
- Use respectful in quiry to help others
- Explore impasses
- Take note of triggers to emotional reactions
- Be critically reflective and set aside pre-conceived notions



#### I am Sam

- Who would remove?Why?
- Who would leave Lucy with Sam? Why?
- Who would need more information to make a decision? Why?

What are you feeling?



# Sam and Lucy



What are potential biases/assumptions that could be made about Sam and Lucy?



Why do we want to AVOID making decisions based off of initial instincts or first impressions?



What are consequences of basing decisions based on feelings, emotions, instincts for Sam and Lucy?

# Critical Thinking

The objective analysis and evaluation of an issue to form a judgement. Being able to assess our assumptions and biases.



IF THERE WAS ONE LIFE
SKILL EVERYONE ON
THE PLANET NEEDED, IT
WAS THE ABILITY TO
THINK WITH CRITICAL
OBJECTIVITY

99



# Critical Thinking Characteristics

Deliberate
Curious
Desire for truth
Communicate clearly
Fair Minded
Demonstrate integrity

Allows us to look at our beliefs and challenge them through a cognitive process.

Helps m in im ize impact of personal values, beliefs, and biases reducing the likelihood of m istakes.

Importance in Child Welfare

TN



#### Benefits

Better able to manage and regulate your emotions

Increased decision-making skills

Better

Com m unication

Im proved
Relationships

Higher levels of happiness

More confidence

Better job satisfaction

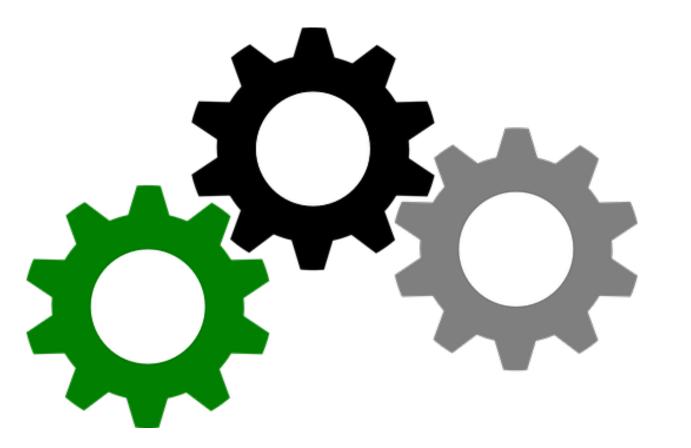
Im proved leadership skills

How do
these
benefits
help child
and families
we serve?

TN

"Too often we enjoy the comfort of opinion without the discomfort of thought." ~John F. Kennedy

## Motivational Interviewing

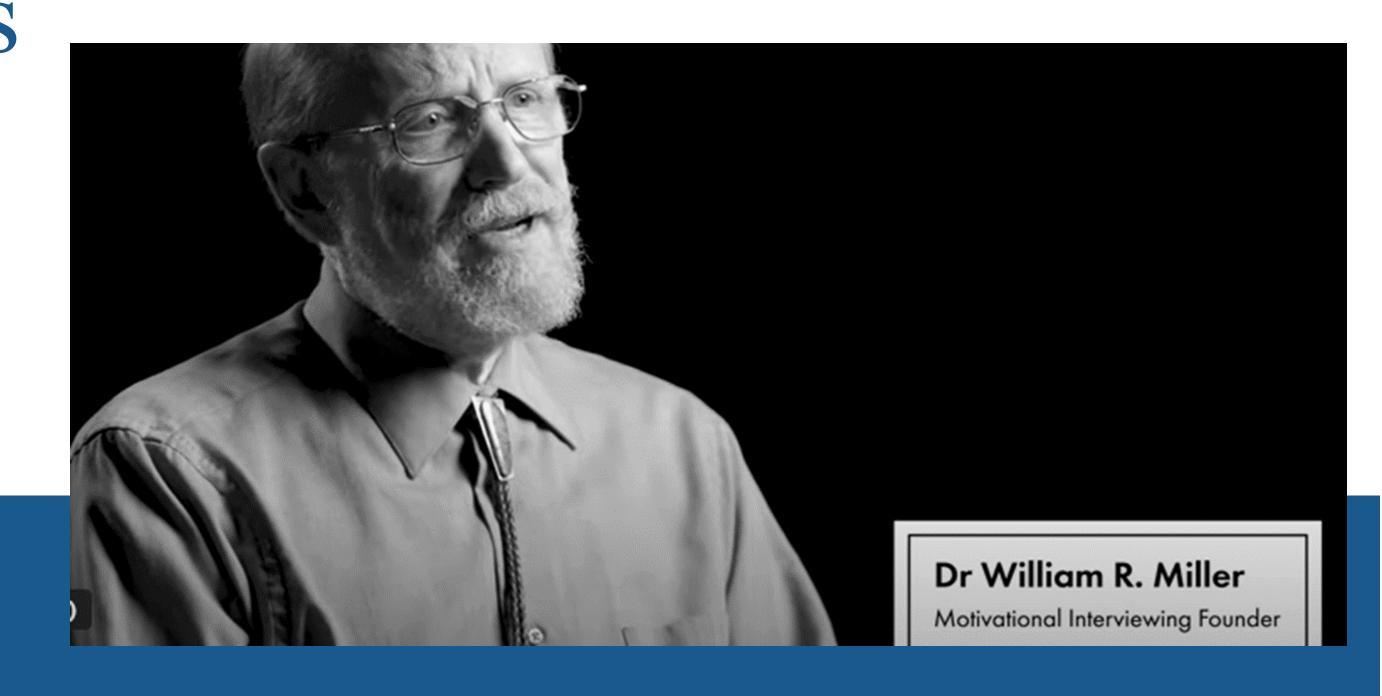


# What is Motivational Interviewing?

A collaborative goal-oriented style of communication for strengthening a person's own motivation and commitment for change in an atmosphere of compassion.



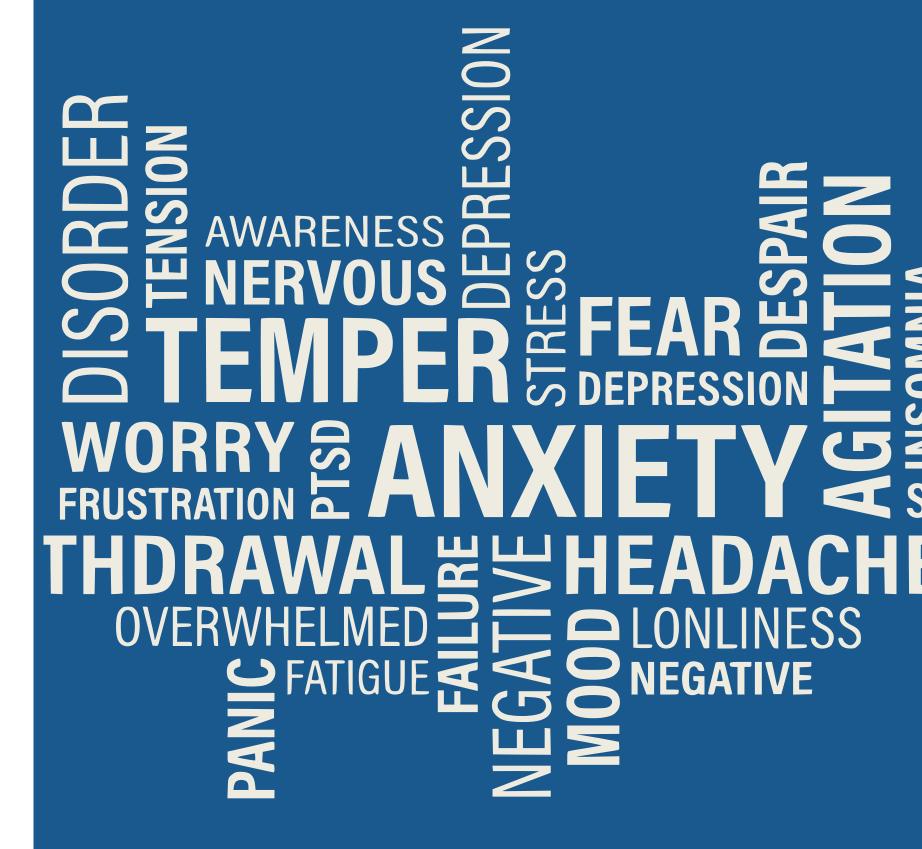
# What is MI?





# How can Motivational Interviewing be used in child protection?

Parents who come to the attention of CPS experience tremendous stressors and a range of emotions that may include fear, hopelessness, and a reluctance to engage with a system that is threatening to remove—or has removed—their children.





#### Benefits

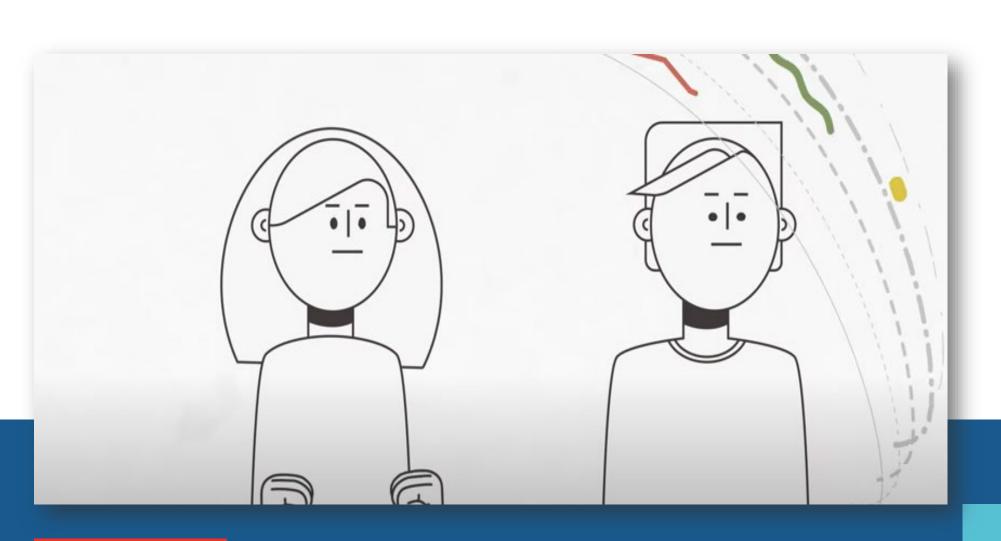
- Feel more understood
- Increase confidence
- Desire for behavior change
- Empowered to express their own idea
- Gain ownership over the change process
- Increase likelihood of success

- We are responsible for assessing risk and safety concerns. Safety is always paramount.
- Creating balance to ensure child safety while collaborating and engaging families.
- DCS engages clients when we are uninvited.
- All parties are held accountable.



## Challenges

# Lifting the Burden in Motivational Interview in g



- You are not the expert; you can't make a person change.
- The person across from you may have better ideas.
- MI is not a directive
   approach. It is guiding and involves good listening.

Main Points

# What is Guiding?

- Getting family's input
- Actively listening
- Offering suggestions/resources
- Answering questions
- Assessing interest and priorities
- Assessing strengths and abilities





# Spirit of Motivational Interviewing





#### Collaboration

- Involves partnership that honors the client's experience and views.
  Emphasis is on
- Emphasis is on creating an environment that is conducive to change.
- Highlights the family is the expert in their lives, and we want to hear their stories.





#### "Expert" Behaviors

Asking closed-ended questions

Asking questions that confirm biases

Using statements such as: "Don't you think.../
You should..."

Use of confrontation versus inquiry

TN

Behaviors we display in the "expert role"

#### Circumstances that cannot be changed

- Court Orders
- Safety of the Child
- Court Ordered Services
- Restraining/No Contact Orders
- Immediate Protection
   Agreements



# How do we collaborate with clients when there are circumstances that cannot be changed?

- Offer choices around services
- Give families a voice
- Allow/Invite room for questions/discussion
- Involve the family in planning
- Listen to their story
- Brainstorm barriers and solutions

#### Acceptance



- Absolute Worth
- Accurate Empathy
- Autonomy Support
  - Affirmation



#### Righting Reflex

- Stay curious
- Ask open ended questions
- Actively listen
- Explore internal motivation
- Assess the readinessto change

#### Righting Reflex

Tend to try and actively fix problems for our clients but in doing so we reduce the likelihood of change



How do you avoid telling clients how to "fix" the situation?



#### Evocation

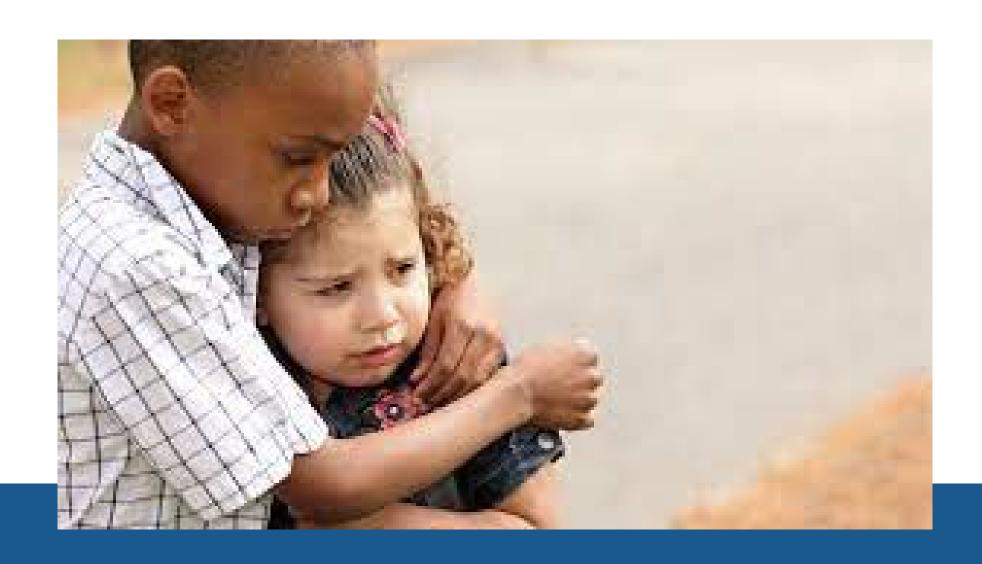
- Families have what they need to change
- Elicit the goals and values of the fam ily
- The fam ily has the potential motivation and resources from within
- Incorporate expressions of change motivation in service planning

Our role is to learn about the family in order to maximize their protective capacity and build strengths to facilitate change.





#### Compassion



- Seeking the well-being and interest of families through active engagement and teaming
- Supporting the family through teaming and inclusive planning
- MI is not a directive approach. It is guiding and involves good listening.
- Intentions are centered around helping and empowering
- Communicating concerns and risks in a collaborative way



#### Human Dignity



# What is meant by human dignity?

- Self-worth
- Self-respect
- Autonomy

# What can you do to preserve human dignity?

- Active Listening
- Asking questions
- Acknowledging strengths
- In viting dialogue
- Acknowledge emotions

#### Guiding Principles

Expressing Empathy
Rolling with Resistance
Developing Discrepancy
Supporting Self-Efficacy





# Expressing Empathy

#### Goals:

- ☐ To see the world as others see it
- □ To be non-judgmental
- ☐ To understand the other person's feelings.
- Be able to communicate your understanding of the other person't feelings.







### Empathy vs. Sympathy



- Sympathy involves understanding from your own perspective.
- Empathy involves putting yourself in the other person's shoes and understanding why they may have these feelings.

TN

Goal is to better understand

#### Rolling with Resistance

A concept that gives us direction on how to engage the barriers the family has put up as they are confronting child welfare.



- Avoid a direct head-on argument with the person
- Show you have heard what they have said. Reflect and summarize.
- Encourage the other person to come up with solutions or alternative behaviors versus explaining or forcing suggestions

# Walk with instead of resisting against

- ☐ Lean into reflections
  - □ Apologize
    - **□**Affirm
  - ☐Shift focus



# It's Not About the Nail





#### Developing Discrepancy

Asking us to look for statements or interactions where they are

verbalizing they feel stuck.

Shift Focus to evoke difference between the status-quo and the way they wants things to be.

Look for mismatches between where they are and where they want to be.

Goal is for individuals to recognize their current behaviors place them in conflict with their values or interfere with accomplishment of goals.

Helps a person become more aware of those places of being stuck.



#### Example

CM: "You've said you are working your plan to get the kids home and still taking Oxy on the weekends. How do those two things go together?

Family: "Well...I suppose they don't."



#### Self-Efficacy



- Focus on previous
   successes and highlight
   skills and strengths they
   already possess.
- They have an internal locus of control
- Refers to where you believe the power to alter your life events resides within you (internal locus of control) or outside of you (external locus of control).



#### Meet the Stewards

- Marilyn Steward, mother, age 41
- Travis Collins, child, age16
- Michael Collins, child, age 14





#### Family Assessment Worksheet

What I Need Needs-What I Know Strengths to Know Concerns Signs of Cultural Signs of Risk **Next Steps** Considerations Safety

#### Poverty Simulation

Can you start out the month with only \$100 dollars after your fam ily's essential needs are met?... Or, will you be one of the unlucky ones? You'll find out when you join us for a unique opportunity to experience the virtual realities of poverty.





# Unit Four Wrap-Up



#### DCS Supports

Supervisor

Professional
Development Coach

Mentors Peers

Trainers

TN

Ask questions and seek support

#### Employee Assistance Program (EAP)



Available 24/7

Always Confidential

Master's Level Specialists

Trained to help you find the right solutions for you

Can connect you with a variety of resources and benefits



855-Here 4TN (855-437-3486)



www.here4tn.com

Live Chat: M-F 8:30-3:00 CT

# Course Survey

Scan-Click-Complete
OTPD Course Survey





