

What Do Clinicians Say about the TAC?

"I think it has been an eye opening experience. I'm an adoptive mother and worked with adoptive parents professionally and you start to think you know everything, and then you take this class and realize how little you know because new theories and therapists are being developed all the time."

"Surprisingly to myself, probably the biggest take away I've had overall from the course thus far is related to self-awareness and my own personal views on adoption and each of the members of the adoption constellation (I've also learned this new wonderful phrase of "constellation" and make it a point to use it whenever possible). I think I have a brand new, fresh level of empathy and perspective as I work with many of the adoptive parents I have on my caseload now."

"It has humbled me to even be in this course – even though I have done this work for many years and have personal experience in adoption! It has already challenged my entrenched views....but also validated much of what I either knew/suspected to be true. I am also reminded that my personal journey and the journey of any one client may not be the same for others."



Where the TAC is Currently Being Implemented

- Catawba County Department of Social Services, Hickory, North Carolina
- Lilliput Children's Services, Sacramento, California
- Center for Advanced Studies in Child Welfare, University of Minnesota
- Massachusetts Adoption Resource Exchange (MARE)
- Lutheran Family Services of Nebraska
- The Villages of Indiana
- Foster and Adoptive Care Coalition of St. Louis, Missouri
- Montgomery County Department of Job & Family Services and ADAMHS Board for Montgomery County, Ohio
- University of Connecticut School of Social Work, West Hartford, Connecticut

More about the TAC in your community:

NEXT Training:

Where: Caldwell County Social Services

When: 9:00-4:30 p.m. on the following dates:

01/16/2015	04/17/2015
01/30/2015	04/24/2015
02/13/2015	05/08/2015
02/27/2015	05/22/2015
03/13/2015	05/29/2015
03/27/2015	06/05/2015

Full paid scholarships are available if you serve adoptive families in the following North Carolina counties: Ashe, Alleghany, Alexander, Burke, Caldwell, Catawba, Watauga or Wilkes County.

For more information contact Chrissy Triplett at 828-695-4428 or ctriplett@catawbacountync.gov

Trainers Janine Szymanski, LPA and Chrissy Triplett, LCSW became certified TAC trainers in 2010 and have trained four cohorts in the TAC model.



The TAC . . . A National Movement To Create an Adoption Competent Mental Health Workforce

The TAC was developed by the Center for Adoption Support and Education (C.A.S.E.) and is being implemented with the generous support of major national child welfare foundations in the United States. It is currently being implemented in eight states with more states coming on board in 2014. Rigorous research is documenting its effectiveness in providing clinicians with the critical competencies they need to provide quality mental health services to those whose lives have been touched by adoption.





What does the research say about the TAC?

- Program completers have superior performance on pre-/post-tests compared with a contrast group of non-TAC-trained clinicians
- Trainees have substantially improved performance on all core adoption competencies
- TAC learning is transferred to practice across six domains of clinical practice
- There are high levels of training delivery fidelity, quality and relevance

At the conclusion of the training, 88% of students report either having substantial understanding of the core competencies or having mastered the core competencies with the ability to explain to others.

Learn even more about at the TAC at:

<http://adoptionsupport.org/index.php/the-tac-training-for-adoption-competency/>

Who has funded the TAC?



The Annie E. Casey Foundation

The Jockey Being Family Foundation

The Ralph and Eileen Swett Foundation



The TAC Modules

- Module #1. Adoption History, Law and Process
- Module #2. Introduction to Adoption Competent Mental Health Practice
- Module #3. Clinical Issues in Planning, Preparing for and Supporting Adoption
- Module #4. Clinical Issues in Providing Therapeutic Services: Grief, Loss and Separation
- Module #5. Trauma and Brain Neurobiology
- Module #6. Attachment
- Module #7. Adopted Adolescents and Identity Development
- Module #8. Clinical Issues in Working with Birth and Adoptive Families
- Module #9. Clinical Work with Adoptive Families: Managing Challenging Behaviors
- Module #10. Openness in Adoption
- Module #11. Race and Ethnicity in Adoption
- Module #12. Integrating Adoption Competencies: Knowledge, Skills and Values

What are the special features of the TAC?

Exclusively designed for mental-health professionals

In-depth clinical focus

Competency-based

Very intensive: 72 hours classroom training and 6 month case consultation component

Manualized to ensure fidelity

Rigorous evaluation

What is the TAC?

The TAC is a 72 hour, 12-session competency-based training program followed by a 6-month case consultation program for licensed mental health clinicians who provide pre- and post-adoption services to prospective adoptive parents, birth parents, adopted persons, and adoptive and kinship families.

Eleven modules are classroom-based; one module is completed at-home; and the final class session provides participants with an opportunity to fully integrate learning.

Each module combines information sharing, written handouts and resources, and experiential learning, including case studies, role plays, and introspective work. Six sessions of case consultation (held once monthly) follow the classroom training.

Graduates of the TAC receive a certificate of completion and national recognition through posting on the Center for Adoption Support and Education's website.