# CARES/FAR: Assessing Safety and Risk





A learning program for **Division of Child Protection (DCP) staff including Child Protective Specialists, Child Protective Supervisors, managers, deputy directors and Application staff.** 

## **ABOUT**

This learning program aims to improve learners' critical understanding of — and ability to assess — the safety and risk of family circumstances within the CARES (Collaborative Assessment, Response, Engagement and Support)/FAR (Family Assessment Response) context.

Learners use the protective approach to maintain safety-focused practice and assessments while utilizing CARES/FAR principles that support strengths-based assessments, family-led engagement, and solution-focused inquiries. They also learn how to recognize implicit bias and its impact on families and other CARES/FAR frameworks that bridge how a learner collects information about the family.

Learners practice using the following tools: virtual assignment, case examples, safety assessment, FLAG (Family-Led Assessment Guide)-Assessing Risk, group consultation, safety factors, scaling questions, open-ended inquiries, The Three Houses, mapping, Genogram, Ecomap, and racial equity strategy. Before attending this virtual, instructor-led training, learners must complete all course prerequisites listed below and an online pre-test

#### **BENEFITS**

Learners will:

- Adopt affirming practices in case assessment by better understanding the consequential impact of implicit bias in child protection.
- Better understand how methods of safety and risk in the CARES/FAR context are supported by the concept of racial equity.
- Understand how the functions of group consultation are utilized in the CARES/FAR casework practice in the assessment of safety and risk.
- Learn about FLAG in assessment and CONNECTIONS documentation.

### **COMPONENTS**

Once enrolled in the course, learners will complete:



An online pre-test.



A virtual assignment.



A full-day, virtual, instructor-led training.



An online post-test.



Completion of all components is necessary to receive a Certificate of Completion.

# **PREREQUISITES**

Prior to attending this course, learners are required to have completed:

- Family Assessment Response CBT (Computer-Based Training).
- All components of the CARES/FAR: Process and Practice learning program.
- All components of the CARES/FAR: Solution Focused learning program.

### **CONTINUING EDUCATION UNITS**

There are no CEUs associated with this course.

#### REGISTRATION

Staff development coordinators will contact DCP staff during their assigned enrollment period to coordinate registration.

ABOUT ACS WORKFORCE INSTITUTE The ACS Workforce Institute (WI) is a state-of-the-art professional development institute that strengthens skills and provides support to child welfare and juvenile justice direct service staff as they strengthen and support New York City's families and children. Through partnership with the City University of New York (School of Professional Studies and the Hunter College Silberman School of Social Work), the ACS Workforce Institute offers professional learning initiatives that move beyond the classroom to enhance skill development for new and seasoned ACS and provider agency staff.

