



A learning program for **DCP's Child Protective Specialists, supervisors and managers working in CARES Units.**

## ABOUT

This learning program is designed to facilitate a collaborative conversation among Department of Child Protection (DCP) professionals about the practical aspects of the ACS Collaborative, Assessment, Response & Support (CARES) approach. Learners examine each major decision point in the life of a CARES case, from screening to case closure. Learners are also invited to reflect on their CARES practice, to be open to sharing and learning with their peers across the city, to engage in polling questions connected to various scenarios, and to participate in breakout room group discussions. Before attending this virtual, instructor-led training, learners must complete all course prerequisites listed below.

## BENEFITS

Learners will:

- Understand that CARES is one of ACS's strategies to address racial equity disparities in the NYC Child Welfare system.
- Acknowledge implicit biases and how they impact decisions and outcomes for families.
- Maintain safety-focused practice at all decision-making points of a referral in a manner consistent with the CARES approach.
- Reinforce the Solution-Focused Practice approach throughout the life of a CARES case.

## COMPONENTS

Once enrolled in the course, learners will complete:



A four-hour, virtual, instructor-led workshop training.



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

## PREREQUISITES

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

- Completion of the CARES Foundational Training Series.
- Assignment to a DCP CARES unit for a minimum of six months.

## CONTINUING EDUCATION UNITS

There are no CEUs associated with this course.

## REGISTRATION

Staff should work with their Staff Development Coordinators if interested in registering for this course.

## ABOUT ACS WORKFORCE INSTITUTE

The ACS Workforce Institute (WI) is a state-of-the-art professional development institute that supports child welfare and juvenile justice direct service staff and strengthens their skills as they support and strengthen 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.

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