



Behavioral Health-Criminal Justice Certificate Program

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS - 2021

The following 8 training modules are offered through our Behavioral Health-Criminal Justice Certificate Program.

* NYS Social Work CE and CASAC Renewal credit hours are different for webinars. Please refer to the training announcement or LearnUpon course description for credit information.

Understanding and Navigating the Criminal Justice System: An Overview for Behavioral Health Professionals

NYS Social Work CE Contact Hours: 3.5

CASAC Renewal Credit Hours: 3.5

This 1/2-day training for behavioral health professionals provides an introductory overview of the NYC criminal Justice System. The training follows the process from arrest through re-entry, highlighting the various places where community mental health providers can support their justice-involved clients as they are processed through the criminal justice system and transition to community living. The training is an important primer and outlines foundational information using both interactive and didactic training formats.

Reducing Recidivism and Promoting Recovery: Understanding and Addressing the Factors that Contribute to Re-arrest

NYS Social Work CE Contact Hours: 3.5

CASAC Renewal Credit Hours: 3.5

This 1/2-day training will explore the dynamic and static risks factors associated with re-incarceration and the ways that providers can intervene to help clients achieve successful outcomes. The class will begin with an overview of the current paradigm for assessing and working with clients to reduce their risk for re-arrest (Risk-Need-Responsivity). Through interactive exercises and didactic lecture, participants will learn to expand their thinking about how to work with justice-involved clients with mental illness in ways that support recovery, mitigate the risk or re-arrest and reduce stigma.

SPECTRM: Sensitizing Providers to the Effects of Incarceration on Treatment

NYS Social Work CE Contact Hours: 3.5

CASAC Renewal Credit Hours: 3.5

This 1/2-day training explores the “culture of incarceration” and how it can impact a client’s ability to adjust to a community behavioral health setting. It is designed to help sensitize providers to the re-entry experience and provide strategies to engage and support clients through this vulnerable time. This training underscores the connection between effective engagement and successful re- entry, and helps providers recognize the important role they can play in supporting their clients as they try to move forward with their lives.

Using Harm Reduction Approaches to Enhance Participant Outcomes: Increasing Our Engagement Toolkit

NYS Social Work CE Contact Hours: 3.5

CASAC Renewal Credit Hours: 3.5

Society's responses to drug use has been shaped by the misconception that people with addictions are morally flawed and lacking in willpower, resulting in an emphasis on punishment rather than prevention and treatment. This training will review the National Institute of Drug Abuse's Principles of Drug Treatment for Criminal Justice Populations. These principles emphasize cross-agency collaboration. They underscore the importance of providing evidence-based, integrated treatment that is tailored to an individual's needs, engages the participant in a therapeutic process across the criminal justice continuum and focuses on preventing further criminal involvement. These principles emphasize the importance of a coordinated public health and public safety approach to working with justice-involved individuals struggling with addiction issues.

Realizing, Recognizing, Responding: An Introduction to Trauma-Informed Care

NYS Social Work CE Contact Hours: 3.5

CASAC Renewal Credit Hours: 3.5

Although prevalence estimates vary, there is consensus that a high percentage of criminal justice-involved women and men have experienced serious trauma throughout their lifetime. The reverberating effects of traumatic experiences can challenge a person's capacity for recovery and pose significant barriers to accessing services, often resulting in an increased risk of coming into contact with the criminal justice system. How Being Trauma Informed is designed to increase providers' understanding of trauma and its impact on behavior, and to develop trauma-informed responses to the clients they serve.

Cross-Systems Collaboration: Supporting Mandated Clients

NYS Social Work CE Contact Hours: 3.5

CASAC Renewal Credit Hours: 3.5

This 1/2-day training provides an overview of diversion and community supervision and the role that behavioral health providers can play in supporting clients who are mandated to treatment by the court, or as a condition of probation or parole. Whether mandated by court through diversion or as a condition of probation or parole, behavioral health providers must learn to collaborate with these systems and play a role in monitoring and reporting clients' progress. Through interactive and didactic training approaches, trainees will learn strategies and best practices for working with mandated clients and collaborating with the systems that oversee their treatment progress.

First Person Perspectives: From Incarceration to Recovery

NYS Social Work CE Contact Hours: 3.0

CASAC Renewal Credit Hours: 3.0

This 1/2-day training will provide a first-hand account of the experience of incarceration, reentry and recovery from those who have lived through it. Trainers will describe their day-to-day experiences of incarceration and the strategies they used to cope with that experience. In addition, they will explore the challenges and opportunities inherent in transitioning to the community from a correctional facility. They will also discuss how incarceration has affected their personal identity and behavior and provide insight into the sources and impact of stigma on their recovery. Most importantly, they will share their stories of personal strength and resolve to move forward. Ultimately, they will help providers understand how they can best support their justice-involved clients with mental health issues, as they carve a path to recovery.

Understanding Violence: Assessing and Managing Risk

NYS Social Work CE Contact Hours: 3.5

CASAC Renewal Credit Hours: 3.5

This 1/2-day workshop will provide attendees with an understanding of violence and its origins from a bio-psycho-social perspective. First we will explore the complexity of violent behavior and their different types, including general violence, sexual violence and intimate partner violence. In addition, we will examine the myths and realities of the relationship between mental illness and violence and explore the risks and protective factors associated with violent behavior. Furthermore, attendees will learn about the different approaches to assessing violence risk and will be introduced to a widely used risk assessment tool. Finally, we will present different approaches to the management and treatment of violent behavior. To integrate the information learned through didactics, we will present a clinical case and ask attendees to consider the violence risk and develop a risk management plan.