

This series of eight, 90-minute webinars provide child welfare professionals with an overview of the 3-5-7 Model® and explores the application of the 3-5-7 Model® practice approach in supporting grief and relationship building work.

Webinar #1: Overview of the 3-5-7 Model®

The 3-5-7 Model® is a practice that supports the work of children, youth and families in grieving their losses and rebuilding their relationships towards the goals of well-being, safety and permanency. In this session, an overview of the guided and directional approach to engaging children and youth people in grief work and relationship building interactions will be provided. The core components and theoretical foundations of the 3-5-7 Model® will be described. Key principles that frame the practice of the 3-5-7 Model® will be highlighted.

Webinar #2: How Storytelling Encourages Healing

Listening to the stories is one of the 7 Skills of the 3-5-7 Model®. In this session, we will explore the value and importance of storytelling and the way that activities around the telling of stories captures the grief and relationship building work that occurs when individuals are healing from the separation and trauma they have experienced in their lives. Strategies to promote storytelling as a natural and comfortable way for children and youth to give meaning to the experiences that have been central to their lives will be shared.

Webinar #3: Using Activities to Engage Children and Youth

Activities and exercises provide non-threatening, tangible tools through which children and youth can connect with feelings and explore thoughts about what has happened to them. In this session, we will describe how activities and exercises are critical to engaging youth in their grief and loss work. Examples of activities that encourage and support the work of clarification, integration, and actualization to explore the issues of identity, loss, attachment, and relationship-building will be introduced.

Webinar #4: Using the Tools of the 3-5-7 Model®

During this session, tools for applications of the 3-5-7 Model® will be introduced, including the Readiness Continuum and the 3-5-7 Model® Workbook. Techniques for using these tools to help professionals identify engagement strategies, monitor progress, and understand a child and youth's readiness for relational permanency will be explored. The 3-5-7 Model® Skills Development Guide will be introduced as a self-assessment tool for understanding worker's strengths as well as to identify opportunities to enhance practice.

Webinar #5: Clarification: Seeking the Answer to Why

In this session, the process of exploring life events to reconcile losses (clarification) will be described.

The idea of recognizing and accepting that current behaviors reflect grief responses will be explored; a grief perspective that recognizes the resiliency of children and youth and supports beginning the clarification process. Finally, we will demonstrate how the 7 Skills can guide the sharing difficult information with children and young people and opportunities to practice having these difficult conversations will be provided.

Webinar #6: Integration: Creating Well-Being through Relationships

Through integration, youth make decisions about who will be there for them and who will engage in a committed relationship that signifies permanency. In this session, we will describe how the integration task supports children and youth giving meaning to their relationships and determining how people fit into their lives. Strategies for supporting children and youth as they are exploring attachments are identified. The deeper, unseen losses that occur when children are separated from their families will be reviewed and key elements of helping grieving children will be highlighted.

Webinar #7: Actualization: Finding Safety in Relational Permanence

Actualization follows the work of clarification and integration when young people and their families recognize how their relationships fit together and where they feel a sense of belongingness. In this session, actualization will be defined, and the key anchor points that support movement from integration to actualization, including recognizing birth parents as the foundation of permanency, identifying relationships with people of importance, exploring how important relationships will be preserved, and supporting the child/youth as they begin to accept caregivers who are not birth parents will be explored. Common assumptions that are made when making permanency planning decisions will be discussed.

Webinar #8: Supporting Youth-Driven Decision-Making

In this session, the key elements of the 3 Tasks of the 3-5-7 Model® related to supporting readiness for decisions about relationships of permanence will be reviewed. The patterns of power and decision-making that have traditionally been used in the child welfare system will be described as a contributing factor to cookie-cutter decisions. A decision-making model will be introduced as a strategy that recognizes the uniqueness of each child and family situation and promotes empowerment and self-determination. The process that is used for coaching following the 3-5-7 Model® training will be described.

For more information visit www.darlahenry.org or contact us at: office@darlahenry.org