# National Training and Development Curriculum
## FOR FOSTER AND ADOPTIVE PARENTS

**In October 2017, Spaulding for Children, in partnership with Dr. Bruce Perry and the ChildTrauma Academy (CTA); The Center for Adoption Support and Education (C.A.S.E.); the North American Council on Adoptable Children (NACAC); National Council For Adoption (NCFA); and, University of Washington (UW) was awarded a 5-year cooperative agreement from the Administration on Children, Youth & Families, Children's Bureau. This grant will be used to develop and then evaluate a state-of-the-art training program to prepare foster and adoptive parents to effectively parent children exposed to trauma and to provide these families with ongoing skill development needed to understand and promote healthy child development.**

At the end of the grant period, states, counties, tribes, territories, and private agencies will have access to a free, comprehensive curriculum that has been thoroughly evaluated, which can be used to prepare, train, and develop foster and adoptive parents. The National Training and Development Curriculum for Foster/Adoptive Parents (NTDC) will be designed for families who are fostering and/or adopting children through the public child welfare system as well as those adopting through an intercountry or private domestic process. The NTDC curriculum will be comprised of three components:

## SELF-ASSESSMENT

Parents will complete an assessment before, during, and after the classroom-based training. Information gained from the initial assessment will help the trainer tailor the classroom-based material to the specific needs of the group participants. The second and third assessments are designed to help parents better understand their capacity, progress, and specific areas in which they might need to seek additional learning opportunities.

## CLASSROOM-BASED TRAINING

This dynamic and interactive curriculum will provide concrete information on the roles and responsibilities of foster/adoptive parents and the knowledge, skills, and attitudes they need to effectively parent children who have experienced trauma. Each module will have clearly delineated learning objectives that not only build on skills taught in previous lessons but also align with competencies identified as common characteristics of successful foster and adoptive parents.

## RIGHT-TIME TRAINING

Participants will be able to guide their own continued learning and obtain information at the time they need it through ongoing access to training and resources. Video and written materials will be available through an app or Web-based platform, making resources easily available for parents to continue building their skills over time as their children transition through different developmental stages.

The curriculum will be piloted and rigorously evaluated in six to eight sites (state, county, territory, or tribe) that will be selected based on a non-biased, multi-step process. The pilot sites will be selected during the first year of the initiative, and these sites will receive tailored technical assistance to infuse the curriculum into their systems. Pilot sites will be expected to participate actively in the evaluation and will have opportunities to provide feedback on the curriculum. The final curriculum will be disseminated across the United States in 2022.

## To find out more about the NTDC project please email: ntdc@spaulding.org