

DEEP DIVE MODULE 1: RIGOROUS AND BALANCED ASSESSMENT

Three Questions and Solution-Focused Questions

9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. (1 hr. lunch break)

1. Introduction

Shared Agreements

2. Safety Versus Risk

Essential Question: Are the children safe?

3. Three Questions:

At their most basic, both SOP and formal assessments can be boiled down to three questions. Every interview and every stage in the life of a case (hotline, investigations, etc.) needs to cover these three main issues.

a. Three Questions

- i. What are we worried about?
- ii. What is working well?
- iii. What needs to happen next?

b. Caregiver + Behavior + Impact

i. Generalizations versus behavioral descriptions (activity)

1. No headline terms (danger of a single narrative)
2. Part 1 In small groups: Make an exhaustive list of all the generalizations, labels, and generally imprecise descriptions we use every day to describe families.
 - Start by taking a piece of paper and dividing it in half—the “working well” and the “worries.”
 - Then come up with a list of all the common phrases and descriptions we use every day about families that tell us nothing about impact!
 - Keep it real!

4. Solution-Focused Questions:

Solution-focused questions (SFQs) increase opportunities for solutions and invite people to think about how they resolve problems. We do this by exploring examples of strengths and behaviors that we want to increase. (Activity after each type of question to practice using the SFQs)

- a. Exception (Listen for empty spaces)
- b. Scaling

- c. Position
- d. Coping
- e. Preferred future
- f. Simulation—appreciative inquiry (AI)

5. Linking the Three Questions and Solution-Focused Questions

- a. Complete a three-column map with a partner about a case, referral, or resource family you are currently working with.
 - i. One person will ask the other solution-focused questions to help their partner fill out a three-column map.

6. Closing

- a. Documentation
- b. Try it on: Choose one family you are working with and try on the three-column map between now and the next deep dive.
 - i. Bring an example of a three-column map you have completed and be ready to present at the next deep dive. (Required)
- c. Supervisory Tips Sheet
- d. Add reference page to participant guide with SOP contributors