



Because children depend on all of us



UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA | Faculty of Social Work

The Caregiver Curriculum on FASD

Introduction

Curriculum Development Team:

Dorothy Badry, PhD, RSW

Jamie Hickey, BA & MSW(c)

Tri-Provincial FASD Research Team

Faculty of Social Work

University of Calgary

Project Funder: Public Health Agency of Canada (2011-2014)

©



The Caregiver Curriculum on FASD

- Title: Caregiver Curriculum on FASD (Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder) 2014
- Author: Dorothy Badry & Jamie Hickey in collaboration with the Tri Province FASD Research Team
- Format: pdf and Power point - online topics and modules on the website fasdchildwelfare.ca
- Publisher: Faculty of Social Work, University of Calgary; Faculty of Social Work, University of Manitoba & Children's Aid Society of Toronto-Child Welfare Institute

- This project was funded by the Public Health Agency of Canada.
- ISBN 978-0-88953-375-2©
- Use of Material: This material can be freely shared and used with acknowledgment using the citation below.
- **Citation:** Badry, D., Hickey, J. & the Tri Province FASD Research Team (2014). Caregiver Curriculum on FASD. Online: fasdchildwelfare.ca; Faculty of Social Work, University of Calgary; Faculty of Social Work, University of Manitoba & Children's Aid Society of Toronto-Child Welfare Institute. Funder: Public Health Agency of Canada.

INTRODUCTON TO THE CAREGIVER CURRICULUM ON FASD

Jan Lutke

Manager, Research and Community Engagement, Canada FASD Research Network

I have been a foster parent and an adoptive parent for more than 45 years. I did – and still do – specialized long term care for children with prenatal alcohol exposure and my first diagnosed child was placed with me in 1979. Over the years, I have adopted 22 of those children, 15 of whom have a medical diagnosis of FASD, most with significant trauma and other medical issues. All of them have provided me with stress and challenge in large amounts, but they have also taught me about love, joy and the indomitable human spirit. Six of them continue to reside with me as adults while I continue to provide help and support to the rest in different ways. I have two grandchildren who also have an FASD diagnosis, whom I continue to help provide support and care to.

INTRODUCTON TO THE CAREGIVER CURRICULUM ON FASD

Jan Lutke

Manager, Research and Community Engagement, Canada FASD Research Network

As both an adoptive parent and a foster parent, this curriculum is something I would have appreciated, used, and been grateful for. It would have provided much that I needed to understand and learn, explained many of the issues I faced, made sense of the illogical, given me information that would have made a difference when I first became a foster parent and taught me much about myself. It would have prevented me learning everything the hard way and made me a much better parent to the children in my care much sooner. Its development is a major step forward in supporting both the children themselves and those who care for them, a valuable tool, and something that anyone who already is, or is considering becoming a parent – of any kind – to children with FASD should complete.

Introduction

The funding for this Caregiver Curriculum on Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) was provided through a Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) grant (2011-2014) that involved child welfare researchers in Alberta, Manitoba and Ontario (2011-2014).

The purpose of this curriculum is to provide a venue for caregivers (including: foster parents, kinship care, youth and child care workers, child welfare services, families and others) trying to understand and cope with many of the life challenges presented by children with FASD. As Canada is a vast country, the opportunity to study about FASD may be limited or limited training opportunities may exist. This curriculum was developed with the caregiver in mind and it is intended to promote FASD informed care and preferred practice. Children with FASD have complex needs and live with a lifelong disability that is not always well understood. The goal of this curriculum is to help support FASD Informed Care. It is not possible to cover every possible topic on caring for children who have a diagnosis of an FASD and we have endeavored in this work to design a practical and useful resource. It is our hope that this curriculum will continue to evolve. This work is intended as a support for caregivers and in no way represents medical or diagnostic advice.

The Caregiver Curriculum on FASD (2014) is a free resource available as pdf and Power point files. It is designed as a self-study format and is offered as a series of modules. While each module has a different learning topic, all the modules have a consistent format that includes: **Topic, Introduction, Learning Objectives, Topic Slides, Recap, and Activity**. Some modules may include relevant website links to resources that are specific to caregiving.

Website: www.fasdchildwelfare.ca



Acknowledgements

We acknowledge the support and funding provided by the Public Health Agency of Canada in the creation of the curriculum and website.

The Tri-Provincial FASD Research Team: Dr. Deb Goodman (Children's Aid Society of Toronto); Dr. Don Fuchs (Faculty of Social Work, University of Manitoba), Dr. Linda Burnside; Dr. Dorothy Badry & Dr. William Pelech (Faculty of Social Work, University of Calgary); and Sharon Long (Alberta Human Services). Research Assistants included Anna Azulai, Jamie Hickey and Erin McFarlane. The curriculum development team included Dorothy Badry and Jamie Hickey, with reviewers including Deb Goodman, Don Fuchs and Jan Lutke of the Canada FASD Research Network. The role of each team member has contributed in some way to the preparation of this curriculum and we acknowledge the support of everyone involved. This curriculum was created with best practice and knowledge in mind with an intentional focus on the needs of caregivers.

Options for Viewing Power Point and PDF

- Option 1
- The curriculum has been prepared using Power point for different modules with embedded links. There is a link to the Power Point viewer for your use. You can click on the links and be directed to the linked material.
- Option 2
- PDF File – The curriculum has also been prepared as a pdf file which makes it easily accessible and downloadable. Printing the modules and putting them in a binder is another way to work through the information and activities.

Curriculum Topics

- Each module has been designed for self study. Participants are invited to go through each module when you have the time to do so. Each topic is distinct but you will see some similar across different modules.
- This material does not replace nor is it intended to advise caregivers on interventions or medical (physical), mental health, addictions, behavioral, or social/emotional problems. Any concerns about children or adults with FASD need to be directed to the appropriate resources such as a family physician or other professional.

For further information please contact

Dr. Dorothy Badry

Faculty of Social Work

University of Calgary

2500 University Drive NW

Calgary, Alberta, Canada T2N 1N4

E-mail: badry@ucalgary.ca

Disclaimer

This curriculum has been developed through a research grant funded by the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC). in the Tri Provincial Study on FASD in Child Welfare. There were four components to this project:

- 1) Creation of Provincial Inventories on FASD available services;
- 2) Develop a Community of Practice website: FASDchildwelfare.ca;
- 3) Conduct research into prevalence of FASD in child welfare;
- 4) Development of a web-based, caregiver curriculum on FASD.

Development of a caregiver curriculum on FASD: Disclaimer

This curriculum is a free learning resource that employs a self-study approach. It is not intended to be utilized for any medical purposes such as diagnosis. It was designed primarily for caregivers of children with FASD, to develop FASD informed care and knowledge about FASD. The work represented in this curriculum has been authored by a curriculum development team including Dr. Dorothy Badry, PhD, RSW and Jamie Hickey, BA (Honors Psychology and MSW (c) (Research Assistant) in consultation with the Tri-Provincial FASD Research Team.

All sources for the materials cited in the curriculum have been identified.

Please note, this material does not necessarily reflect the viewpoint of the funder, the Public Health Agency of Canada.