

# ssa week 1 agenda

## Social Service Assistant Training

Week 1: July 28 – 30

Portland State University Child Welfare Partnership Training Unit

Week 1 Zoom Link: <https://pdx.zoom.us/j/93476676991> | cwpsalem.pdx.edu | (503) 315-4267

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### WK 1, Day 1

#### Introductions Cultural Humility

Jose Maciel  
Shantika Green

9:00 – 10:30

- Become familiar with the training environment and evaluation procedures
- Honor the role of the SSA to empower families and to keep children safe.
- Identify values, beliefs, and biases that can impact work with families.
- Become familiar with different types of intercultural communication styles.

#### Purpose, Procedure and Rule

Shantika Green  
Jose Maciel

10:30 – 12:00

- Describe the purpose of visitation.
- Become familiar with Oregon's procedure and rule regarding child and family contact plans.

#### Using the Oregon Practice Model to Ensure Safe and Meaningful Family Engagement

Shantika Green  
Jose Maciel

1:00 – 4:00

- Identify the role of a safety service provider in managing child safety.
- Understand when and how to report a concern as a safety service provider.
- Define safety threats, protective capacities and safety service providers.
- Describe how to create an environment for meaningful visits.

#### Review of Key Content

Jose Maciel  
Shantika Green

4:00 – 4:30

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## Week 1, Day 2

### Special Considerations

Jose Maciel  
Chris Bowling

9:00 – 12:00

- Identify general dynamics prevalent in child sexual abuse cases.
- Describe strategies for safeguarding children from sexual offenders during visitation made mandatory by the court.
- Become familiar with dynamics of domestic violence.
- Identify strategies for supervising visits when domestic violence is an issue.
- Identify general characteristics of a variety of mental illnesses that parents may have.
- Describe strategies for safeguarding children during visitation with mentally ill parents.

### Confirming Safe Environments and Monthly Contact

Jose Maciel  
Chris Bowling

1:00 – 4:30

- Become familiar with the role of the SSA in completing monthly contacts and monitoring child safety.
- Identify the types of information to gather during monthly face-to-face contact.

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## Week 1, Day 3

### Principles of Partnership and Engagement

Shantika Green  
Jose Maciel

9:00 – 12:00

- Become familiar with the principles of partnership.
- Identify how personal cultural backgrounds, beliefs, values and biases can impact engagement.
- Recognize the benefits of family engagement.
- Identify strategies to overcome barriers to engagement.

### Understanding Engagement from a Parent's Perspective Panel

Shantika Green  
Jose Maciel

1:15 – 2:30

- Gain insight into the experience of parents who have been involved with the child welfare system. (parent panel)

### Principles of Partnership and Engagement (cont.)

Shantika Green  
Jose Maciel

2:30 – 4:30

# ssa week 2 agenda

## Social Service Assistant Training

Week 2: August 4 – 6

Portland State University Child Welfare Partnership Training Unit

Week 2 Zoom Link: <https://pdx.zoom.us/j/92870008936> | cwpsalem.pdx.edu | (503) 315-4267

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### Week 2, Day 1

#### Supporting Safe and Successful Visitation: Tips, Tools, and Techniques

Joanna Crawford  
Tim Boettcher

9:00 – 4:30

- Understand normal child development and how trauma, grief, and loss impacts development.
- Identify strategies for supporting parents during visits.
- Identify strategies for providing feedback to parents.
- Understand when to step in or stay out during visits.

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### Week 2, Day 2

#### Substance Abuse

Jay Wurscher  
Jose Maciel  
Chris Bowling

9:00 – 12:00

- Understand the effects of substances on brain functioning and behavior.
- Understand the basics of diagnostic criteria and substance abuse treatment process.
- Identify strategies to engage parents impacted by substance use and Substance Use Disorder.
- Know how substance use impacts children and extended family.

#### Foster Parent Panel

Jose Maciel  
Chris Bowling

1:00 – 2:30

- Gain information on how to communicate and work effectively with foster parents.

#### Observation, Documentation, and Presentation

Jose Maciel  
Daniel Schneider  
Chris Bowling

2:30 – 4:30

- Identify the required elements of visit documentation and how to write a case note.
- Learn how to document contacts in OR-Kids.
- Become familiar with the juvenile court process.
- Understand reasonable and active efforts.
- Learn how to testify in court.

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## Week 2, Day 3

### Observation, Documentation, and Presentation (cont.)

Jose Maciel  
Daniel Schneider  
Mike Hansen  
Tim Boettcher

**9:00 – 2:00**

### Self-care

Jose Maciel  
Daniel Schneider  
Tim Boettcher

**2:00 – 3:00**

- Identify challenges of child welfare work related to vicarious trauma and secondary traumatic stress.
- Identify strategies for building resilience and reducing the effects of vicarious trauma.

### Group Wisdom – SSA Panel

Jose Maciel  
Daniel Schneider  
Tim Boettcher

**3:00 – 3:30**

- Gain insights and effective strategies for getting the job done from experienced SSAs and one another.

### Closing and Evaluations

Jose Maciel  
Daniel Schneider  
Tim Boettcher

**3:30 – 4:00**

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