

Title: Providing Mental Health Services For Children And Youth With Problematic Sexual Behavior: Applying Best Practices To Support And Promote Safety

Program description: Numerous studies indicate that providing mental health services for children and youth with problematic sexual behaviors will significantly reduce the potential for future problematic behaviors as well as enhance their overall life experiences. This presentation will introduce assessment and treatment approaches that take into account that atypical sexual behavior does not occur in isolation, but within the context of the child's physical, cognitive, moral, social and emotional development as well as within the context of the child's overall social network and life experiences. Empirically supported approaches will focus on 1) Using assessment to identify salient treatment issues; 2) Individualizing approaches to address heterogeneous needs; 3) Developing resource responsive interventions. This presentation will address assessment, treatment, and empirically guided implementation strategies, including the importance of engaging families through a collaborative approach to interventions that strengthen a youth and family's motivation for change.

Learning Objectives:

Learning Objective 1: Participants will understand how to utilize assessment to develop individualized treatment plans to address PSB.

Learning Objective 2: Participants will understand the salient factors to address in treatment that are empirically supported and lead to the desistance of problematic behavior (sexual and non-sexual) as well as promoting protective and resiliency in children.

Learning Objective 3: Participants will be able to identify markers for treatment success beyond reduction of recidivism, including strategies to achieve them.

Target Audience: Mental health, social work

Duration: 1.5 hours