



The DEC Approach: Moving from Awareness to Action...

This training by the National Alliance for Drug Endangered Children (National DEC) focuses on how to implement the DEC Approach which is a comprehensive strategy based on a common vision, collaboration that is on-going between various disciplines and agencies, and on-going changes in practice. This DEC Approach has proven to be effective in improving the likelihood of better outcomes for drug endangered children. This training provides insights about how various practitioners—including child welfare professionals, law enforcement officers, court/judicial professionals, prosecutors, probation/parole, medical personnel, educators and treatment providers—are in a position to identify, protect, and serve drug endangered children and their families.

The trainers discuss the identification of risks to drug endangered children and what all disciplines can look for when collecting evidence and information on drug endangered children. The trainers utilize pictures and video of real DEC scenarios to assist professionals in understanding what to look for regarding the “life of the child”. The training includes trainer led discussions and hands on exercises to demonstrate how implementing collaboration enhances the likelihood of better outcomes for drug endangered children.

Learning Objectives:

1. Gain insight about how our own experience, attitudes, values and emotions impact effective collaboration under the DEC Approach.
2. Gain insight about our collaborative partners to decrease frustrations when utilizing the DEC Approach.
3. Understand how utilizing collaboration leads to more informed decisions and increased likelihood of better outcomes on behalf of drug endangered children and their families under the DEC Approach.
4. Be able to implement changes in identification of children, mandatory reporting, and evidence and information collection in our respective practices on behalf of drug endangered children.

Who Should Attend:

Child Welfare, Law Enforcement, District Attorney’s, Probation/Parole, Treatment, Ongoing Service Providers, Education, Fire, EMS, Judges, Community members, and other First Responders who have a job which impacts children and families.