

Presenting Evidence in Child Forensic Interviews Training Program

Fairmont, MT | October 29 – 30, 2024

DAY ONE

9:00 AM – 10:30 AM

Introduction and Overview – Amy Allen and Andi Hamilton

- Define evidence and offer examples of evidence in different types of abuse, violence, and exploitation cases.
- Explain the application of Anticipatory Guidance as it applies to forensic interviews.
- Discuss the process of presenting evidence in the context of a child-centered and trauma-informed approach.

10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

Identifying and Assessing Externally Verifiable Evidence – Amy Allen and Andi Hamilton

- Discuss suggestions for assessing externally verifiable prompts as verbal evidence presentation used as a transition to the topic of concern.
- Review current research-based approaches for transitioning to the topic.
- Examine the impact of question type in child forensic interviews.
- Discuss critical thinking when using prompts to minimize denial.

12:00 PM – 1:00 PM

Lunch (on your own)

1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

Identifying and Assessing Externally Verifiable Evidence (continued) – Amy Allen and Andi Hamilton

- Opportunity to practice applying concepts of identifying and assessing evidence in a child-centered, trauma-informed way through the discussion and application of examples.
- Discuss basis for defending the presenting verbal/intangible evidence approach while being victim centered.

2:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Selecting and Preparing Physical Evidence – Amy Allen and Andi Hamilton

- Discuss law enforcement's role in presenting child sexual abuse images in child forensic interviews.
- Offer clear guidance on how to select evidence to be used in child forensic interviews.
- Discuss benefits of using evidence and considerations of this practice.
- Practice the brief reference to evidence during the orientation phase of the interview.
- Discuss labeling and notetaking when presenting physical evidence.

DAY TWO

9:00 AM – 10:30 AM

Selecting and Preparing Physical Evidence (continued) – Amy Allen and Andi Hamilton

- Discuss the purpose for sanitized and un-sanitized physical evidence.
- Discuss in detail the process of selecting and preparing physical evidence.

10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

Creating Defendable Prompts and Inquiries – Amy Allen and Andi Hamilton

- Identify the timing for presenting evidence.
- Discuss assessing the readiness of youth for presenting evidence.
- Explain the process for presenting physical evidence.
- Discuss levels of Anticipatory Guidance and its purpose.

12:00 PM – 1:00 PM

Lunch (on your own)

1:00 PM – 3:50 PM

Creating Defendable Prompts and Inquiries (continued) – Amy Allen and Andi Hamilton

- Practice presenting pictures and other physical evidence.
- Identify follow up questions.
- Discuss suggestions for problem solving, including minimizing denial.
- Create a plan for building and applying skills learned.

3:50 PM – 4:00 PM

Closing – Evaluations