



SAN FRANCISCO SAFESTART INITIATIVE

ABOUT THE SAFESTART INITIATIVE

Recent research shows that young children who witness violence are vulnerable to many issues including developmental delay, aggression, behavioral disorders, depression, anxiety, low self-esteem and self-confidence, inability to react appropriately to stress, and later tendency towards violence as adolescents.

SafeStart is an initiative that seeks to reduce the incidence and impact of violence on San Francisco's children age zero to six. SafeStart delivers services, develops policies, and works to improve the systems which respond to families with young children exposed to violence. SafeStart delivers training to staff who serve San Francisco's families and reaches out to families with violence.



SAFESTART LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. Trainees will be familiar with at least 3 symptoms of childhood exposure to violence.
2. Trainees will be able to respond appropriately to children demonstrating symptoms of exposure to violence.
3. Trainees will be able to make changes in professional practice with these children and make appropriate referrals for children exposed to violence.

TRAINING AND OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES

Outreach Presentation: This presentation is typically provided to policy makers and agency managers. The primary purpose of outreach is to publicize the SafeStart Initiative itself and to solicit interest in more in-depth training. The presentation usually lasts about 15-30 minutes.

Training Event: This training is usually provided for agency staff and sometimes parents. The primary purpose of the event is to achieve the SafeStart learning objectives listed above, in order to enhance staff response to children and families exposed to violence. The training usually lasts about 30-60 minutes.

In-Depth Training Event: This training is typically provided for agency staff. The primary purpose is to achieve SafeStart learning objectives. The key difference is in-depth content which includes basic aspects of neuroscience so participants can understand how child development is affected by exposure to violence. It usually lasts 60-90 minutes. We also offer a one day SafeStart Training Conference each year for professionals throughout San Francisco.

The SafeStart training curriculum is developed in consultation with national experts. All training and outreach opportunities are planned in partnership with you and are customized to your audience. Each of the opportunities can be delivered together with the SafeStart Training and Outreach Coordinator, a SafeStart Family Advocate, or whoever can best relate to your audience. We can deliver at your site or ours and with bilingual/bicultural staff in English, Spanish, Cantonese, or Tagalog. We provide brochures and other reference materials.



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