

# OCYF TRAUMA TEAM NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2023

Contact us at RA-PWOCYFTRAUMA@PA.GOV



BLACK  
HISTORY  
MONTH

Trauma intersects in many different ways with culture, history, race, gender, location, and language.

- Trauma-informed systems acknowledge the compounding impact of structural inequity and are responsive to the unique needs of diverse communities.
- Cultural awareness, responsiveness, and understanding are essential to increasing access and improving the standard of care for traumatized children, families, and communities.
- Eliminating disparities in trauma services requires culturally responsive involvement across service sectors, communities, organizations, neighborhoods, families, and individuals.
- Only then may barriers be reduced, stigma be overcome, social adversities be addressed, families be strengthened, and positive ethnic identity encouraged and cultivated. (NCTSN)

## TEAM UPDATE

The OCYF Trauma Team would like to remind agencies of the free online training, Raising Trauma Awareness in Child Welfare Casework Practice in PA, that is available through the [E-Learn Catalog ID # 2348](#). Lakeside Global Trainings are available to all child welfare professionals through September 2023. Registration is open but is limited as the trainings are filling quickly. If interested, register [here](#). The four OCYF Regional offices will soon begin or have begun outreach efforts to their assigned agencies for completion of the Trauma-Awareness assessments. Your collaboration in this process is essential and the team would like to thank you again for your commitment to becoming trauma-aware in the face of so many other challenges. We acknowledge your efforts during this time when staffing shortages are a significant barrier.