



**CHILDREN'S VILLAGE**  
sharing wonder every day

A National Model of Excellence in Toddler,  
Preschool, and School-Age Care and Education



**CREDENTIAL FOR  
STRENGTHS-BASED FAMILY WORKERS**

## **STRENGTHS-BASED FAMILY WORKERS CREDENTIAL COURSE**

***The Temple University Credential for Strengths-Based Family Workers is listed on the U. S. Department of Health & Human Services website as a qualifying 'Credential & Certificate Program' for Head Start family service workers.***

To earn the credential, family workers:

- Attend 80 hours of interactive classroom sessions (14 class days, 9:00 – 4:30) taught by a local SFW Instructor
- Complete a portfolio documenting application of SFW skills and demonstrating competence
- Meet with a Learning Coach for a minimum of 10 hours to receive support and guidance in completing the portfolio
- Pass a national exam

The Credential for Strengths-based Family Workers is a professional training and credentialing program that is comprised of a competency-based curriculum. It is unique in its focus on the development and documentation of knowledge and skill through a multi-faceted evaluation process. Workers who complete the program are better able to facilitate a family's ability to set and reach their own goals. While nationally standardized, the training is tailored to meet the needs of local communities.

**SFW Core Competencies:**

- Demonstrates professionalism and commitment to ethical practice
- Recognizes strength in diversity and difference: demonstrating sensitivity in practice
- Understands and utilizes the power of clear, non-judgmental communication
- Demonstrates self-care and lifelong learning
- Applies strengths-based principles to practice with families
- Applies strengths-based principles to agency and community systems

**SFW Features:**

- Incorporates a variety of evidenced-based training methodologies by trained community-based family development instructors
- Workers learn skills related to effective family engagement, effective communication, problem solving, action planning, cultural humility, critical thinking, reflection, and evaluating performance
- Skills are shared with those they help, supporting the development of the skills in help-seekers
- Includes portfolio coaching by a trained Learning Coach
- Allows for demonstration of core family worker skills
- Assessment exam evaluates achievement of learning objectives
- Credential issued by Temple University
- Opportunity to earn 7 college credits, CEU's and Act 48 Hours
- Instructor and Learning Coach trainings have been approved for social work continuing education hours

**SFW is grounded in Family Development Principles and:**

- Is competency-based
- Has clearly articulated connections to learning objectives
- Uses precise measures to demonstrate competence
- Includes a process for continuing professional development and credential renewal



Classes are held at:  
**Children's Village Learning Lab**  
**125 N. 8<sup>th</sup> Street**  
**Philadelphia, PA 19106**  
**(215) 931-0190**

Children's Village is easily accessible by public transportation. Parking is available in pay parking lots. There is no nearby free parking.

The instructor is Beth Baker. Beth is the Family Services Director at Children's Village. She has a Master's Degree in Counseling and Human Relations from Villanova University, and 37 years' experience in the field of family services in early childhood education. She is a PQAS-certified instructor, and certified to teach the Temple University Strengths-Based Family Workers course.

Beth Baker  
 Family Services Director  
 Children's Village  
 (215) 931-0192  
 bethb@childrensvillagephila.org

## Syllabus: Strengths-Based Family Workers

Class is held on Wednesdays, 9 AM – 4:30 PM		<b>Module</b>	<b>Portfolio Assignment</b>
01/02/19	<b>1</b>	<b>Overview &amp; Orientation</b>	Review Module 2 Precourse Information
01/16/19	<b>2</b>	<b>Strengths-based Family Development and the Help-Giving Cycle</b>	Learner Assessment & Plan #1 Learning Coach Meeting Review Module 3 Precourse Information
01/30/19	<b>3</b>	<b>Communication Skills for Strengths-based Family Workers</b>	Helping Relationship Inventory #1 Learning Coach Meeting Review Module 4 Precourse Information
02/13/19	<b>4</b>	<b>A Broad Definition of Culture</b>	Conversation about Culture Learning Coach Meeting Review Module 5 Precourse Information
02/27/19	<b>5</b>	<b>Strengths-Based Assessment &amp; Measuring Progress</b>	Assessment & Measuring Progress Review Module 6 Precourse Information
03/13/19	<b>6</b>	<b>Developing Plans with Families</b>	Family Goal Plan #1 Learning Coach Meeting Review Module 7 Precourse Information
03/27/19	<b>7</b>	<b>The Impact of Bias</b>	A Plan to Address My Bias Learning Coach Meeting Review Module 8 Precourse Information
04/10/19	<b>8</b>	<b>The Importance of Self-Care</b>	Personal Self Care Assessment & Plan Review Module 9 Precourse Information
05/01/19	<b>9</b>	<b>Communication in Special Situations</b>	Learner Assessment & Plan #2 Learning Coach Meeting Review Module 10 Precourse Information
05/15/19	<b>10</b>	<b>Community Resources</b>	Helping Relationship Inventory #2 Review Module 11 Precourse Information
05/29/19	<b>11</b>	<b>Inequity</b>	Family Goal Plan #2 Learning Coach Meeting Review Module 12 Precourse Information
06/12/19	<b>12</b>	<b>Lifelong Learning</b>	What Would You Do Discussion Learning Coach Meeting Review Module 13 Precourse Information
06/26/19	<b>13</b>	<b>Family, Agency &amp; Community Systems</b>	Family Goal Plan #3 Learning Coach Meeting Review Module 14 Precourse Information
07/10/19	<b>14</b>	<b>Supporting &amp; Strengthening Families through Transitions and Endings</b>	Learner Assessment & Plan #3 Learning Coach Meeting

***Children's Village submits all completed portfolios to Temple University following the last class. The final exam is scheduled at Children's Village 2 – 3 weeks after the portfolios are submitted. The tentative date and time for the final exam is Friday, August 16, 2019, at 9:00 AM.***

**The full tuition for the class is \$3,000. This is due upon registration. Payment is made by check to Children's Village. It is nonrefundable in the event the student drops or doesn't satisfactorily meet the requirements of the course at any point.**

**Registration and payment for this course is due at Children's Village by December 1, 2018.**

**\$3,000 tuition covers:**

- **All costs related to the class including course materials, portfolio, and Learning Coach sessions.**
- **Temple University charges for registration, portfolio review, and final exam.**

**Students are responsible for using their own computer to complete portfolio assignments.**

125 North 8th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19106 • (215) 931-0190 • [www.childrensvillagephila.org](http://www.childrensvillagephila.org)



Children's Village is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization.

A copy of Children's Village's official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll-free, within PA, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.





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## STRENGTHS-BASED FAMILY WORKERS STUDENT REGISTRATION

Student's Name, as it appears on legal photo identification

Please call me by this name (if different from above)

Student's Personal Cell Phone

Student's Home Address

Student's Employer

Student's Work Address

Student's Work Phone

Student's Work Email

Student's Preferred Pronoun (she/hers, he/his, they/theirs)

Supervisor's Name, Phone Number, and Email Address

For reminders or changes in class time or class expectations, I prefer to be contacted by (text to which cell, or email)

Briefly describe a few of your professional strengths. Reflect on how your experiences have contributed towards your development of these strengths. (This doesn't have to be long. It's just to get you thinking!)

I have signed and attached the SFW Course Participation and Attendance Requirements.

I have enclosed payment in the amount of \$3,000 (check, please, made out to Children's Village).

Signature:

Date:

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# SFW Course Participation and Attendance Requirements

In order to make this course a meaningful and beneficial learning experience for you and other workers, we ask that you agree to abide by the following SFW Course Participation and Attendance Requirements. Please direct any questions to [SFWTUH@temple.edu](mailto:SFWTUH@temple.edu):

1. **Class sessions:** The course will meet at Children's Village. There are a total of **80 hours** of class sessions. (Class schedule attached.)
2. **Class session attendance:** Attendance is taken at the start of the session and again after the break (or after lunch). **Absences will prevent you from receiving the Credential.**

**Attendance at all sessions is mandatory.** As important material is covered each class session, missing a day or any part of the day means that you are missing valuable information that will assist you in implementing the SFW principles in your work. If there are extraordinary circumstances that cause you to miss a class, you will have to meet with the Instructor to determine your status in the program. If you miss more than 12 hours of class time you will not be eligible for the credential.

**Arriving Late/Leaving Early:** Participants who arrive late or leave early will miss important content and may disrupt class presentations or activities. If there are extraordinary circumstances that cause you to be late for a class or to leave early, you will have to meet with the instructor to determine how you will make up the content that you have missed. Participants who have chronic issues with arrival and leave times will be dropped from the SFW class.

**Make-Up Work:** Any missed class time must be made up either by attending a neighboring class session covering the information you missed, or completing make-up work assigned by your instructor. All time missed must be made up, including late arrivals and departures. If you miss more than 12 hours you will be ineligible for the credential.

3. **Portfolio Coaching:** There are an additional **ten (10) hours** of individual or instruction in portfolio coaching and portfolio development. You and your Learning Coach will develop arrangements to meet on a regular basis. (Advisement schedule attached.) **Not participating in Portfolio Coaching will prevent you from receiving the Credential.**
4. **Portfolio coaching attendance: Attendance for the portfolio development sessions is also mandatory.** As the coaching is limited to 10 hours, you will be expected to make up any time you miss a portfolio coaching session. Make up sessions will be available only as the Learning Coach is able to schedule them. These must be minimal. If you miss more than two (2) hours of coaching sessions, you will be asked to meet with your SFW instructor, the Learning Coach and a program liaison to determine your status in the program.
5. **Portfolio Development:** Your portfolio consists of one assignment per module. The expectation is that you will complete each module's portfolio activities prior to the time the next module is presented in class. If you are more than three modules behind you will be asked to meet with your SFW instructor, the Learning Coach and perhaps a program liaison to determine your status in the program.
6. **Other issues:** As a courtesy to fellow classmates and the instructor during class sessions and portfolio advisement, cell phones and beepers must be turned off or set to vibrate mode. If you must take calls during this time, please step outside of class to answer. You are strongly encouraged to assure you are free from your regular work duties during the class times. Your repeated absence from class to answer phone calls and/or attend to other duties will also impact on your status in the program.

*I agree to abide by these SFW Course Attendance Guidelines.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Worker's signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

*I agree to support the above-named worker so s/he is able to abide by these SFW Course Attendance Guidelines.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Supervisor's signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date