

STATE OF NEW YORK

2659

2019-2020 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

January 28, 2019

Introduced by Sen. SAVINO -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Social Services

AN ACT to amend the social services law, in relation to mandating training of direct care workers in adverse childhood experiences (ACEs)

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. The social services law is amended by adding a new section
2 20-d to read as follows:

3 § 20-d. Training of direct care workers in adverse childhood experi-
4 ences. 1. As used in this section:

5 (a) "Direct-care employees" means the employees of domestic violence
6 shelters, safe dwellings, and domestic violence programs identified by
7 the certifying organization to receive training, which shall include,
8 but not be limited to, the directors and coordinators of such shelters,
9 dwellings, and programs, and any individual or employee performing or
10 required to perform similar responsibilities.

11 (b) "Certifying organization" means an organization designated by the
12 federal department of health and human services to coordinate statewide
13 improvements within local communities, social services systems, and
14 programming regarding the prevention and intervention of domestic
15 violence in New York state.

16 (c) "Adverse childhood experiences" or "ACEs" means stressful or trau-
17 matic experiences experienced during childhood, which are strongly
18 related to the development and prevalence of a wide range of health
19 problems throughout a person's lifetime, including, but not limited to
20 physical or sexual abuse; domestic violence; parental mental illness;
21 substance abuse; and incarceration.

22 2. The office of temporary and disability assistance and the office of
23 children and family services shall, within amounts appropriated for such
24 purpose, contract exclusively with an entity, or with entities in part-
25 nership, to develop a training program for direct-care employees to

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets
[-] is old law to be omitted.

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1 identify individuals who have experienced ACEs, develop effective strat-
2 egies for assisting and interacting with such individuals, and locate
3 programs and services to which such individuals with ACEs may be
4 referred to help build the individual's resilience. Such entity, or
5 entities in partnership, shall be experienced in providing trauma-in-
6 formed, victim-centered training on domestic violence, child abuse, and
7 ACEs. Such entity, or entities in partnership, shall be responsible for
8 providing such training to direct-care employees.

9 3. All direct-care employees shall be required to participate in such
10 training program. Such training shall be provided at no cost to such
11 employees.

12 4. The office of temporary and disability assistance and the office of
13 children and family services shall, within amounts appropriated for such
14 purpose, contract with a certifying organization to provide a certif-
15 ication of completion to each direct-care employee who satisfies the
16 requirements of such training program.

17 § 2. This act shall take effect on the one hundred eightieth day after
18 it shall have become a law. Effective immediately, the addition, amend-
19 ment and/or repeal of any rule or regulation necessary for the implemen-
20 tation of this act on its effective date are authorized to be made and
21 completed by the commissioner of the office of children and family
22 services on or before such date.