

THE SALVATION ARMY CHILDREN’S SERVICES
Resource Parent Training Requirements

Research from Child Welfare affirms that ongoing training is a significant variable in promoting successful resource parenting. The following training criterion is *required for all resource parents* associated with The Salvation Army Children’s Services. The Training Coordinator and/or your agency representative must approve any variation of these requirements.

I. Training Hours:

Training hours required are based on the number of years you have been approved as a resource parent with The Salvation Army Children’s Services.

Pre-Service (prior to home study completion and family licensure) – 24 hours

A minimum of 16 hours will be completed through the agency’s in person, Resource Family Training Curriculum sessions

- 0-8 hours of training hours can be attained through completing and submitting the homework from the Resource Family Training Curriculum sessions
- Basic First Aid and CPR packets and quizzes provide 2 hours of training

1st Licensure Year (post-approval, prior to first annual home evaluation) – 8 hours

- 6 educational, in person training hours required
 - The First Placement Training is mandatory this year (2 hours)
- 2 networking hours allowed (through participation in agency events and supportive meetings)

2nd Licensure Year– 8 hours

- 6 educational training hours
 - 2 hours required in person
 - 4 hours allowed through additional sources (webinars, on-line modules, literature, videos/DVDS, etc.)
- 2 networking hours allowed this year (through participation in agency events and supportive meetings)

3rd Licensure Year and beyond – 6 hours

- 4 educational training hours
 - 2 hours required in person
 - 2 hours allowed through additional sources (webinars, on-line modules, literature, videos/DVDS, etc.)
- 2 networking hours allowed this year (through participation in agency events and supportive meetings)

*****Respite resource parents are required to complete the same number of resource family training hours.***

Turn over

II. Training Topics:

- The Salvation Army will offer a variety of topics to meet the educational and practical needs of resource parents. Pre-service training will include topics such as: child welfare overview, introduction to SACS, understanding biological families, appropriate discipline, separation and loss, cultural competency, adoption from foster care, and role clarification.
- In addition, SACS is offering a four part training series on Trust Based Parenting (*based on the work of Drs. David Cross and Karyn Purvis, Texas Christian Institute, Trust Based Relational Intervention*).
- Specialized training throughout the year will include child abuse and neglect, behavioral management techniques, Visitation Coaching and the importance of family visits, effects of the use of substances upon children, caregiver's self care, and other related topics. The Salvation Army infuses spiritual elements into training sessions, as congruent with the agency's mission and philosophy.

III. Training Times and Locations:

- The Salvation Army offers trainings on weekday evenings and Saturday mornings/early afternoons at various locations.
- Training sessions are primarily conducted in the Lehigh Valley region, but also in the Southeast Region.

IV. Child Care:

- Childcare is provided for all Saturday sessions and some evening sessions.

V. RSVP Protocol:

- Follow instructions on training flyers and announcements. In the event of cancellation, registered families will be notified in advance.
- The agency requests all resource parents to contact the agency at least **24 hours in advance** if unable to attend a training for which you have registered.
- A minimum of 4-5 families must be registered for a training in order for the training to be held; therefore, RSVP is essential. The agency supplies materials, refreshments, and staff based on the number of families attending, so adherence to the protocol is helpful.

*****Training hours must be completed prior to your annual home evaluation or your home may be temporarily closed, which may impact the children placed in your care. Please ensure that you plan accordingly to ensure your participation in the required number of annual training hours. Questions? Contact your agency representative.***