



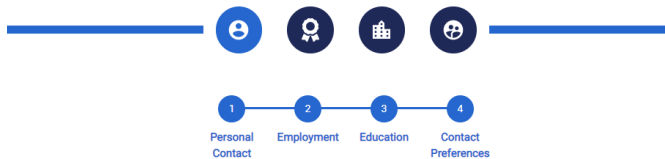
January 2023

Bridge Update

Submitted by: Kari Giles

Important Announcements

- Please ask trainees to check their email and cell phone numbers in the “**Contacts**” section of their demographics area in Bridge. If we have a workshop cancellation due to inclement weather, this is how we will be contacting registered trainees.



Please Update Your Notification Preferences

How would you like to be alerted when an event you are registered for is cancelled (i.e. snow, instructor emergency, etc)?

Email +
 SMS Text +

* Please note standard text message fees apply. Check with your phone carrier for more details.

Thank you for updating/confirming your demographic information. The deidentified demographic data may be used within analyses or evaluations of our curricular offerings. This data may be shared within internal and external reports, presentations, or other products in an aggregate and/or anonymized fashion. A 'Decline to Answer' option is available for all demographic fields.

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- If anyone is logging into E-Learn and receives a message that their account is archived, they will need to log into Bridge and update their user profile before regaining E-Learn access.
- Liaisons are cc'ed on all INA notifications, however, the supervisors are the ones that need to approve the INA in their “**Approval Queue**”. Unless they directly supervise the worker, **liaisons will NOT see the trainee’s INA** in their “Approval Queue”.
- When a trainee leaves your agency, please make sure to enter a “**Termination Date**” in their demographics, otherwise the trainee will continue to be incorrectly associated with your agency.



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Agency Hire Date

1 / 31 / 2022

Which of the following best describes your role under the Agency? If your role is unknown, please keep the default of Direct Service Worker.

Direct Service Worker

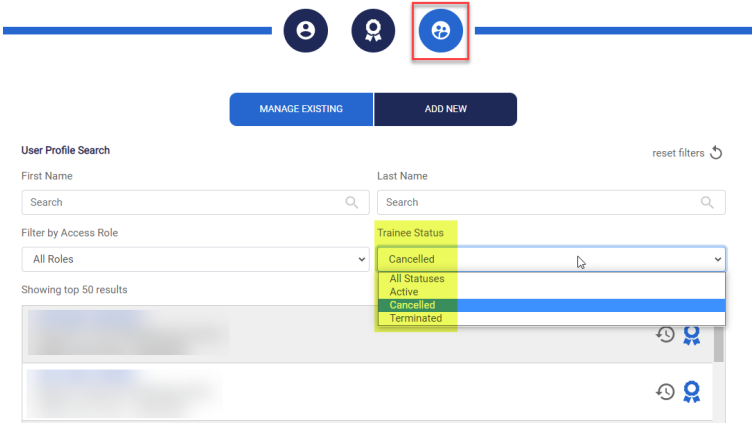
Effective Date of Current Role

1 / 31 / 2022

Termination Date

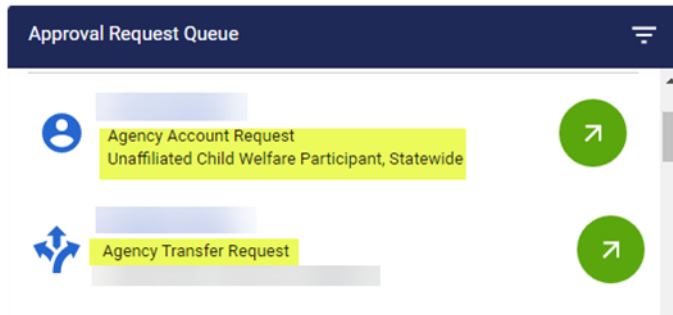
MM / DD / YYYY

- Please make a point of looking for any trainees that are in “Cancelled” status. Go to the “Manage Users” screen, click on the “Trainee Status” dropdown, and select “Cancelled” (see screenshot below). Trainees that are in this status are typically missing demographics information, for example their date of birth, email, or a “Termination Date” (see previous bullet point). Once you have checked their demographics information and filled in any blanks, please contact Kara Muir via the Bridge Helpdesk at BridgeHD@pitt.edu to have the trainee’s record resolved.



- Please check your approval queue regularly for “Agency Account Requests” and “Agency Transfer Requests”. These are requests from either new trainees that are requesting to be affiliated with your agency or they are trainees with existing Bridge accounts and are transferring from another agency. If you do not know the trainee, please reject it - **do not ignore it**.
- We have received a few questions through the helpdesk regarding resource parents and their affiliation with your agency. If you receive a genuine request from a resource parent, but you do not want them to be tied to your agency, you can reject the request and the resource parent will still have the ability to log into the system and complete any required material. The only requests that will not go to a liaison’s approval queue are requests for executive level access. These will need to be approved by a PACWRC administrator.

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Coming Soon to Bridge

- We will be adding the trainee's name to the subject line of a workshop cancellation email.
- The ability for a trainee, supervisor of the trainee, liaison, and executive level staff to view and print the trainee's completed INA via the trainee's workshop history.

For Further Assistance

- For anyone who would like to set up a one-on-one Bridge training via Microsoft Teams, please contact BridgeHD@pitt.edu. This training can be for new liaisons or for anyone who may need a refresher.
- We would also love to hear any feedback, suggestions, and ideas you may have about Bridge via our online form at <http://forms.cwrc.pitt.edu/BridgeFeedback/>.
- If you have any technical issues or questions, please email the Bridge team at BridgeHD@pitt.edu.



Curricula Updates

Submitted by: Andrea Merovich

New this month! *Autism Spectrum Disorder and the Child Welfare System*, a new webinar, is now live on the CWRC webinars page: <http://www.pacwrc.pitt.edu/Webinars.htm>. Please note, an online, E-Learn course will also be created using this webinar content and will be available soon for training credit and CEs.

A Spanish language version of *Overview of Reasonable and Prudent Parenting and Public Law 113-183* is available in E-Learn. Like its English language counterpart, this one-hour online course provides information on the provisions of Act 75 of 2015 and Public Law 113-183 of 2014. It provides information on the role of the resource parent and how this impacts the role of supervisor, administrator, and child welfare professional. The course is eligible for one continuing education credit.

YAB is on Instagram

Submitted by: Andrea Merovich

The Pennsylvania Youth Advisory Board has its very own Instagram account. Help us grow our numbers and our reach. Follow us [@pennsylvania_YAB](https://www.instagram.com/pennsylvania_YAB).

Pitt Day of Giving is February 21, 2023

Submitted by: Andrea Merovich

Attention all Pitt Alumni and former CWEL/CWEB students! Should you feel so inclined, the Pitt Day of Giving is an annual opportunity for Pitt alumni, students, faculty, staff, friends, and families to give back to the Pitt community.

Last year, over 11,000 community members donated nearly \$3 million to support the many schools, programs, and athletics at the University of Pittsburgh. More information on how you can donate to the Pitt School of Social/CWEL-CWEB programs is forthcoming. In the meantime, you can learn more about the Day of Giving here: <https://pittdayofgiving.com/pages/pitt-day-of-giving>.



We Welcome Robin Braum to the Resource Center as the new Youth Ambassador

Submitted by: Cindy Gore

Robin's bio:

My name is Robin Braum. I was born in China, and was adopted into this country when I was only three years of age, and entered the foster care system when I was 16. At 17, I was fortunate enough to meet my now second adoptive family. During that time, I was still going to school, and now I am a proud graduate of Northeast High school and currently seeking my bachelor's degree in criminal justice at Gannon University.

I often wonder what and where I would be if it weren't for Liz and Tim. I wouldn't have made it, let alone survived through the years. They treated me like I was family, letting me go to family events and even going as far as introducing me to people as their son. The foster home I went to was amazing, and that is why in May of last year, I was officially honored to have the last name of Braum.

As the Youth Ambassador for CWRC, I look forward to this great opportunity to work with professionals to make a change in the foster care program and to help advocate for youth to help them succeed in what they want to achieve in their own life.

Update on Foundations

Submitted by: Jenna Meister

We wanted to update you on steps we have put in place to improve the pace at which staff are able to start Foundations. First, we have set a goal for all new hires to have the opportunity to attend the first instructor-led module (Foundations Mod 2) within 3 weeks of their start with your agency. Below are actions we have put into place so far to support that goal. The CWRC team continues to plan for long-term strategies.

- Increased some class size caps (1-2 additional participants).
- Creating a second simulation space (repurposing an existing room) in the Mechanicsburg office so multiple simulation modules can run on the same day in this location.
- Will offer an invite-only virtual series when there are enough staff to run an additional statewide Foundations series but not enough new staff in a particular region to run an in-person series. The “invite only” part is to ensure in-person remains the primary method of delivery.
- Increased communication with our stakeholders for collaborative problem solving and increased understanding of series requirements.

However, we need your help.

First, please have your training liaison contact their Regional Resource Specialist if you have staff that are not scheduled to attend the first in-person module of Foundations (module 2) within 3 weeks of their hire date. We will work with every county for an appropriate solution. Please note: the new series may be 100% virtual if we don't have sufficient numbers in a particular region to hold an in-person series.

Second, please let your Regional Resource Specialist know of any county-based barriers on this issue. For example, we are aware that some of you must receive approval from your commissioners for staff to attend training outside of your county, which can cause further delays. The more we know about the barriers, the better our solutions will be.

Foundations Advisor Support

Submitted by: Jenna Meister

The Foundations Advisor serves an important role supporting caseworkers throughout the Foundations series.

What is a Foundations Advisor? Staff designated by county agencies to support new child welfare professionals completing the Foundations Series. Advisors and new child welfare professionals work together throughout the Foundations series to complete a total of eight (8) field work assignments.

What is Foundations Field Work?

While completing the Foundations Series, caseworkers must complete structured assignments, called field work, **with their advisor**. Foundations field work promotes the opportunity for new child welfare professionals to transfer learning from training sessions to the field and county/agency specific practices while working toward their direct service worker certification.

Each fieldwork module requires an advisor code. Codes and other necessary field work information are accessed in the **Foundations Advisor Role Overview** course in E-Learn.

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- ****Important reminders****

- ◇ Advisors must complete this one-hour online course before serving in the advisor role.
 - ◆ To access the Foundations Advisor Role Overview course in E-Learn, please email helpcwtp@pitt.edu.
- ◇ Please avoid sharing the codes with staff, and instead, meet with them to complete the fieldwork together as intended.

Did you know we have a Foundations Advisor Hub?

- Please visit for more information: <http://www.pacwrc.pitt.edu/AdvisorHub.htm>

We need your help (again). 😊

Please let your Regional Resource Specialist know if you have a change in Foundations Advisors within your county. Our regional team will share information and support anyone who is new to the Foundations Advisor Role.

One upcoming opportunity for Foundations Advisors, Supervisors, Training Liaisons and Administrators is:

Foundations Advisor Support Call

January 31, 2023, 01:00 PM

Zoom link to join: <https://pitt.zoom.us/j/99407423502>

- **Zoom Meeting ID: 994 0742 3502**

We hope to see you there!

**“TELL ME AND I FORGET.
TEACH ME AND I REMEMBER.
INVOLVE ME AND I LEARN.”**

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN



GRADECAM

Regional Team Contact Information

Our local number is 717-795-9048

Our fax number is 717-795-8013

Registration and winter weather number 1-877-297-7488

Central	
Nick Ranney , <i>Regional Team Supervisor</i>	ner20@pitt.edu
Mackenzie Seiler , <i>Practice Improvement Specialist</i>	mas739@pitt.edu
Christina Fatzinger , <i>Practice Improvement Specialist</i>	cmf27@pitt.edu
Emily Patterson , <i>Practice Improvement Specialist</i>	emily.patterson@pitt.edu
David Vactor , <i>Practice Improvement Specialist</i>	djv20@pitt.edu
Mike Danner , <i>Resource Specialist</i>	mjd12@pitt.edu
Northeast	
Jody Price , <i>Regional Team Supervisor</i>	jlp78@pitt.edu
Elyse Coldren-Baker , <i>Practice Improvement Specialist</i>	elc195@pitt.edu
Jill Ferraro , <i>Practice Improvement Specialist</i>	jab462@pitt.edu
Jayne Toczylousky , <i>Practice Improvement Specialist</i>	jat115@pitt.edu
Maricar Williams , <i>Resource Specialist</i>	man86@pitt.edu
Southeast	
Russell Cripps , <i>Regional Team Supervisor</i>	ruc17@pitt.edu
Angela Plantz , <i>Practice Improvement Specialist</i>	anp202@pitt.edu
Colleen Cox , <i>Practice Improvement Specialist</i>	coc31@pitt.edu
Eliza White , <i>Practice Improvement Specialist</i>	eaw81@pitt.edu
Jessica Wittman , <i>Resource Specialist</i>	jms137@pitt.edu
Western	
Tammie Weaver , <i>Regional Team Supervisor</i>	tmw89@pitt.edu
Adam Garrity , <i>Practice Improvement Specialist</i>	adg105@pitt.edu
Michael McClure , <i>Practice Improvement Specialist</i>	mjm298@pitt.edu
Jennifer Caruso , <i>Practice Improvement Specialist</i>	jcar@pitt.edu
Cassie Kreckel , <i>Practice Improvement Specialist</i>	cek83@pitt.edu
Veronica King , <i>Resource Specialist</i>	vek21@pitt.edu

