Children and youth who are moving toward or have achieved adoption often have diverse unmet mental health needs. Adoptive parents cite competent mental health services as one of their greatest unmet needs. Child welfare/adoption social workers and mental health therapists serving these children and their families often have limited understanding of the complex issues around adoption, including trauma, grief, loss, identity and many other issues that complicate or contribute to common mental health problems. This presentation will highlight the need for adoption mental health competency training for child welfare professionals and mental health practitioners, and present the state of the art training initiative: the newly developed web-based National Adoption Competency Mental Health Training Initiative (NTI), developed by the Center for Adoption Support and Education (C.A.S.E.) and funded through a Cooperative Agreement with the Department of Health and Human Services Administration of Children, Youth and Families Children’s Bureau # 90CO1121. This presentation will include discussion of the need for adoption competency, overview of the training initiative and pilot in 9 pilot sites, demonstration of the web-based trainings, discussion of implementation experiences in pilot sites, and a review of evaluation results from the pilot of the curriculum for Child Professionals and Supervisors.
**Q6 Lead Presenter Information**

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Lisa Maynard</th>
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<tr>
<td>Title</td>
<td>Implementation Specialist</td>
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<tr>
<td>Affiliation</td>
<td>Center for Adoption Support and Education</td>
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**Q7 Brief Biography of Lead Presenter**

Lisa Maynard, LMSW, ACSW, TCTSY-F  
Implementation Specialist, C.A.S.E  
585.507.7588  
maynard@adoptionsupport.org

Lisa is a Licensed Social Worker with expertise in trauma, attachment, and adoption. Lisa is an Implementation Specialist with the Center for Adoption Support and Education (C.A.S.E) for the National Adoption Mental Health Competency Initiative (NTI) currently piloting in nine sites across the U.S.

Lisa holds an LMSW, New York State, earning a Masters of Social Work from State University of New York, Buffalo, Trauma Counseling Certification, State University of New York, Buffalo, Post-Graduate Certificate in Adoption Therapy, Hunter College of Social Work, certificate in Traumatic Stress Studies through the Justice Resource Institute, Cambridge, MA, and a Lean Six Sigma Green Belt. Lisa is one of fewer than 100 in the world to hold a certificate in Trauma Center Trauma-Sensitive Yoga.

Lisa has received the following honors: 2010 North American Council on Adoptable Children “Adoption Activist Award;” 2008 United States Department of Health and Human Services Excellence in Adoption Award for post adoption services; 2001 Congressional Honor “Angel in Adoption.” In 2008, she co-produced an 8-part TV news series on the issues of adoption aired by WROC TV8 Rochester NY that received national attention winning the Children's Bureau's 2008 Anna Quindlen Award and was also nominated for an Emmy award.

Lisa also maintains a private therapy practice in Upstate New York, integrating yoga philosophy, meditation and mindfulness in her work with clients, guiding them to explore life challenges in a safe, supportive environment.
Q8 Second Presenter Information

Name: Dawn Wilson
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Q9 Brief Biography of Second Presenter

Dawn Wilson, MSW, Director of the National Adoption Competency Mental Health Training Initiative (NTI), has 30 years of experience in child welfare, mental health and prevention work, with expertise in program development, implementation, and management. As Director of the federally funded National Adoption Competency Mental Health Training Initiative, Ms. Wilson oversees the development, pilot implementation, evaluation and national launch of two state-of-the-art web-based trainings for child welfare professionals and mental health clinicians to effectively address the mental health and complex challenges of children, adolescents and their families moving to permanency through adoption or guardianship.

Previously Ms. Wilson served as a Child Welfare Program Manager with Catawba County, NC Social Services and she worked collaboratively with The Duke Endowment on the Child Wellbeing Project to improve outcomes for children exiting foster care. As part of this project, she led efforts to develop, implement and evaluate an evidence-informed post-permanency service, Success Coach, to provide case management and in-home therapeutic services to support adoptive, guardianship and reunified families following foster care. That service was expanded and funded by the state to serve post-adoptive families in 11 counties. The Success Coach Service has garnered national attention as a promising practice and has received multiple awards, including the 2013 Youth Thrive Award from The Center for the Study of Social Policy; the Transforming Local Government 2014 Alliance for Innovation Award; and the Harvard Kennedy School Ashe Center 2015 Innovations in American Government Award.