



NICHD Training New Mexico

The NICHD Child Forensic Interview Protocol / The DoD Model

Offered onsite by:

The National Association of Certified Child Forensic Interviewers (NACCFI)

Overview

The NICHD Forensic Interview Protocol is a structured, research-supported method for interviewing children in cases of alleged maltreatment. Developed in the 1990s, its primary goal is to improve the quality, validity, and reliability of forensic interviews conducted with children when child abuse is suspected. As noted in the document, its purpose is to “improve the quality, validity, and reliability of forensic interviews conducted with children when child maltreatment is suspected or alleged.

Research Foundation

Grounded in decades of empirical research, the protocol emphasizes developmentally sensitive, non-leading questioning and a child-centered approach. This ensures that the interviews are conducted in a manner that is appropriate for the child’s developmental level and avoids influencing their responses.

Validation and Adoption

The NICHD Protocol was first piloted at a Children’s Justice Center in Utah, where it proved to be an effective tool for producing interviews that could withstand judicial scrutiny. The document explains that it “was validated as an effective training tool to help interviewers conduct interviews that could withstand judicial scrutiny.”

The NICHD Department of Defense Model (DoD)

In 2007, the U.S. Army formally adopted the NICHD protocol for use by Department of Defense social workers responsible for interviewing children suspected of being victims of maltreatment. In 2007 members of the Utah Police Department provided advanced training on the proper use of the NICHD protocol, at the US Army Academy of Health Sciences, San Antonio Texas. This adoption marked a significant milestone in establishing a more consistent, trauma informed research-driven practices across military investigative settings. The DoD Social Workers immediately identified the need for a more compassionate approach that recognized and responded to a child’s distress.



NICHHD Training Guatemala

Course Structure and Delivery

- Available at a location of your choice, or onsite at our location in VA.
- 4-days of onsite classroom instruction.
- Includes intensive, peer-reviewed practicum conducted onsite.
- A 1:10 trainer-to-student ratio.
- A comprehensive student workbook.
- Use of an evidence-based, psychometrically designed peer-review.
- Targeted to law enforcement and multidisciplinary investigative team members.
- Available in Spanish.
- Minimum of 12 Seats Available per course date.
- Earn your Registered Child Forensic Interviewer (RCFI) credential at no cost
- Call us to learn more.

COURSE DATES:

July 22-25 08:00 AM to 4:30 PM / Reserve your seat here: ([Purchase seat](#)) only 12 per class

Aug 19-22 08:00 AM to 4:30 PM / Reserve your seat here: ([Purchase seat](#)) only 12 per class

Sept 9-12 08:00 AM to 4:30 PM / Reserve your seat here: ([Purchase seat](#)) only 12 per class

LOCATION: Fredericksburg, VA-22407

Pratt Medical Building

4701 Spotsylvania Pkwy

Suite 101

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Presenters Biographies



Hector M. Campos, LCSW, DCFI

Chairman, NACCFI

Mr. Campos has more than 40 years of experience in child welfare and clinical social work. He served 21 years as a Family Advocacy Representative (FAP) for the Department of Defense and completed over 100 hours of advanced training at the U.S. Army Academy of Health Sciences on the NICHD Protocol. He was first certified as a Forensic Screener in 1992 at the Dorothea Dix, Psychiatric Hospital in NC. In 2007, he was selected as one of only 18 trainers tasked with educating multidisciplinary teams across the U.S. Army Medical Command on effective implementation of the NICHD protocol.



Julie Wagner, PhD, DCFI

Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice, University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown

Dr. Wagner has 12 years of university teaching experience in criminal justice and related fields, including Child Forensic Interviewing and Investigative Discourse Analysis. She previously served 17 years in law enforcement, including roles as Patrol Officer, School Resource Officer, Juvenile Detective, and Child Forensic Interviewer. A 20-year U.S. Army veteran, she served as a Russian Linguist/Intelligence Analyst before commissioning into the Chemical Corps.

Scheduling and Contact

To request additional information or schedule a training event: naccfichairman@naccfi.com