



# Combining Interdisciplinary Learning Programs to Enhance Knowledge about the Intersecting Issues of Developmental Disability and Child Abuse and Neglect

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Oklahoma Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities and the Interdisciplinary Training Program in Child Abuse and Neglect



## Purpose

This presentation describes a collaborative seminar experience that brings together trainees from Oklahoma LEND and the Interdisciplinary Training Program in Child Abuse and Neglect to explore issues that impact children and families.

## Background

### Interdisciplinary Training Program in Child Abuse and Neglect (ITP)

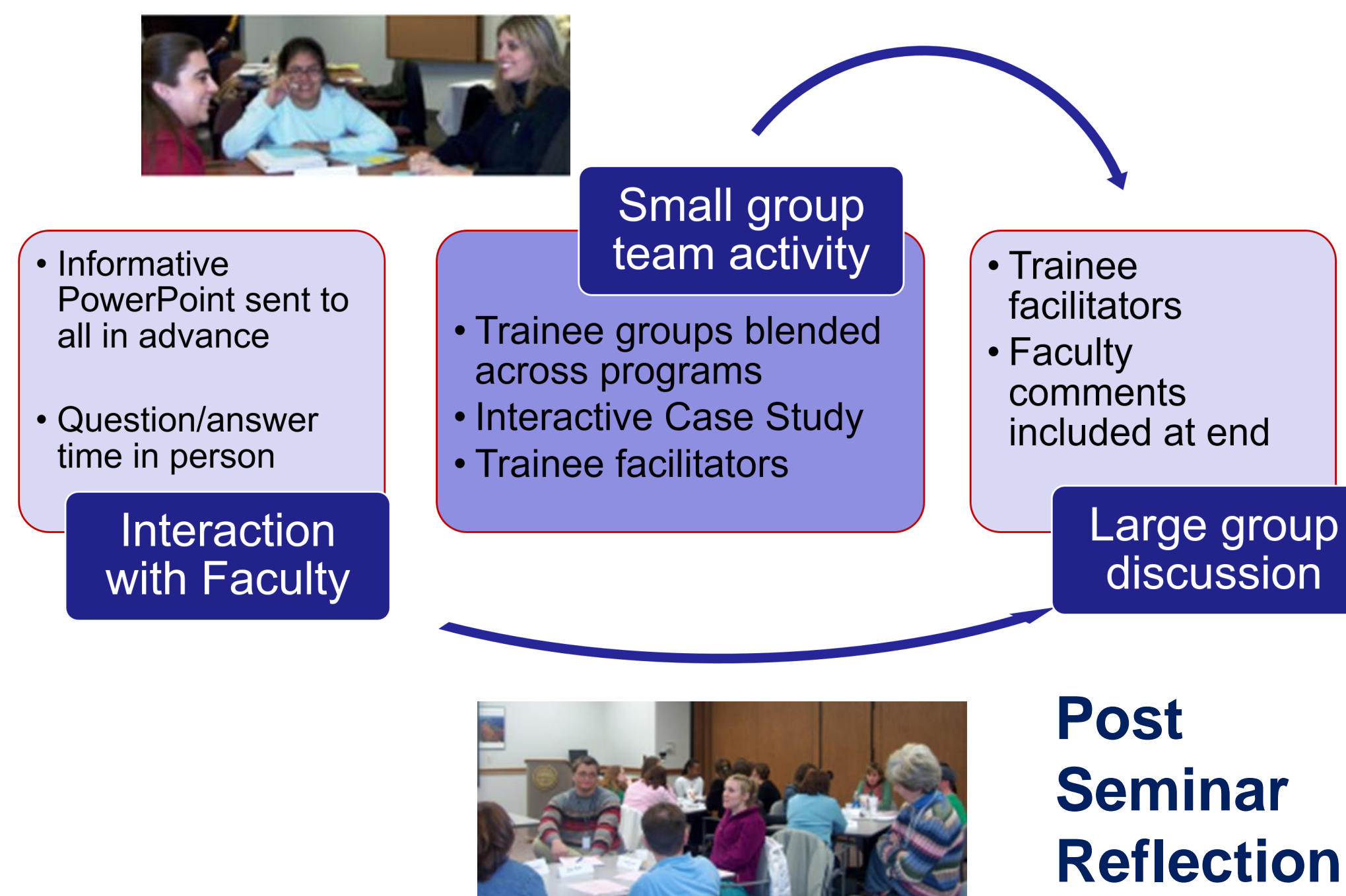
- Established in 1987
- Includes: Medicine, Dentistry, Occupational Therapy/Physical Therapy, Psychology, Law, Social Work, Education, Public Health, Nursing, Sociology
- Provides training in clinical practice, prevention, policy formation, child advocacy, research, and administration in the field of child abuse and neglect.

### Oklahoma Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities (OKLEND)

- Established in 1995
- Includes: Audiology, Autism-Spectrum Disorders, Dentistry, Education, Genetic Counseling, Medicine, Nursing, Nutrition, Occupational Therapy, Parent-Family, Physical Therapy, Psychiatry, Psychology, Public Health, Self-advocacy, Social Work and Speech-Language Pathology
- Provides training to enhance the clinical expertise and leadership skills of professionals dedicated to caring for children with neurodevelopmental and other related disabilities.

## The Process

Joint Seminar with Trainees and Faculty from LEND and ITP programs



## The Problem

- Children and youth with disabilities experience a higher rate of maltreatment than children and youth without disabilities.
- Professionals who work with children and families to address child abuse or neglect need information about issues specific to individuals with developmental disabilities that impact the daily lives and function for children and their families.
- Professionals in the field of developmental disability and family and self-advocacy need to learn about the child protective services system and issues related to child maltreatment.

## Expected Benefits to Participants

- Deepen knowledge on intersecting issues of developmental disability and child maltreatment.
- ITP participants learn about the unique circumstances of individuals with disabilities, medical, and behavioral issues.
- LEND participants learn about the child protective service system, legal issues and procedures

## Significance

Consideration of intersecting issues in developmental disability and child abuse and neglect improves services for families

## Comments from ITP and LEND Participants

“I knew little to nothing about the DHS/Child Protective Services/legal perspective and appreciate the new information.”

“I learned more about disability resources. It strengthened my perspective.”

“The parent’s perspective widened my view and I realized how full of holes the system is.”

“I think it really showed the whole picture of what is needed in various situations. I gained great knowledge through this event.”

“It was a richer discussion to include the perspective and voices from the LEND students, and their emphasis on the family/community support.”



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