

ChildFirst® Arkansas

ChildFirst® Forensic Interview Protocol



Questions?

Please contact **Rita Farrell:**
rafarrel@gundersenhealth.org
Phone: 479-715-7975

FINDING WORDS

Finding words can be difficult for a child victimized by abuse. Conflicting emotions of fear and love for the perpetrator may cause a child to be reluctant to reveal abuse. If a child tries to speak of abuse, he or she may lack the verbal skills to adequately communicate the event to an adult.

Finding words can be difficult for a police officer, social worker or prosecutor who must speak to a child about abuse. In order to communicate competently with a child, the interviewer must be able to speak in a manner consistent with the child's linguistic and developmental abilities.

Finding words can be difficult for a child forced to tell a jury about abuse.

Finding words can be difficult for an investigator or prosecutor forced to defend an interview from an attack by defense counsel that the child was "led" into making a false accusation.

CHILDFIRST®

ChildFirst® is an intensive five-day course in which students learn the necessary skills to conduct a competent, investigative interview of a child abuse victim using the ChildFirst® Protocol.

ChildFirst® is an interactive course which combines lectures with demonstrations and hands-on experience. Students will be required to interview a child about a non-abuse event and be critiqued by an expert forensic interviewer. Students will also conduct a 30 minute interview with an actor/actress playing the role of an abused child and will be critiqued on their performance.

ChildFirst® Arkansas is a course taught by faculty trained and certified by Gundersen National Child Protection Training Center.

ChildFirst® is the ideal course for investigators and prosecutors seeking to enhance their ability to speak to and for abused children.

PAYMENT INFORMATION

Tuition fee: \$200

Make check or money order payable to NWACC

Mail to: ChildFirst Arkansas, NWACC, Gundersen National Child Protection Training Center,
One College Drive, Bentonville, AR 72712 Attn: **Rita Farrell**

CONTINUING EDUCATION UNITS

CLE's and CEU's will be offered to prosecuting attorneys, law enforcement officers and social workers. Please inquire with any questions.

TRAINING LOCATIONS/DATE: (please select your desired training date)

October 29 - November 2, 2018
Little Rock, AR

March 18-22, 2019
Bentonville, AR

HOME WORK & ATTENDANCE POLICY

Please be aware that this is an intensive course. ChildFirst® Arkansas will send you a MANDATORY reading assignment prior to your training session. Homework is assigned each evening to supplement each training session. Each student will be given a written examination at the end of the course. In order to receive a certificate of completion, participants are required to attend all workshops all five days of training, complete homework and pass the final examination.

APPLICATION

ChildFirst® Arkansas is limited to 40 participants per session. Preference will be given to those who apply to attend the training as a multidisciplinary team (MDT). The ideal team consists of a prosecutor, law enforcement officer and a social worker and/or forensic interviewer. If your team varies from this norm, please attach to your application an explanation of the unique makeup of your team and why you would benefit from the training. Individual applicants will be considered, however, registration preference will be given to teams. 22 scholarships are available each training session. Those requesting a scholarship must include explanation for the need. Scholarships include registration fee, lodging, mileage and meals. Participants will be notified of acceptance and scholarship status within two weeks of receipt of their application. **Please contact us if you do not receive notification.**

Please check one: MDT Member Application (team applications must be mailed together) Individual

Name: _____ Title: _____

Agency: _____ Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ County: _____

Phone number: _____ Email: _____

I am requesting a full scholarship: Yes No

(full scholarships are given to participants located more than one hour from the training and include registration, lodging, meals and mileage)

I am requesting a tuition waiver: Yes No

Have you applied to attend ChildFirst®/Finding Words before? Yes No

Has anyone from your agency attended ChildFirst®/Finding Words? Yes No

Please list other child abuse related training or interview programs that you have attended:

Number of years as a child abuse professional: _____

Do you follow a forensic interview model? Yes No If so, which? _____

Approximately how many children have you interviewed for abuse? _____

Do you conduct interviews in a child friendly environment? Yes No

Describe: _____

Which tools do you employ during interviews? Video Tape Audio Tape

Anatomical Dolls Anatomical Drawings

Which of these have you encountered during an interview? Recantation Delayed Disclosure

Unconvincing/Inconsistent Disclosure Non-supportive, non-offending parent Other

Does your jurisdiction have a multidisciplinary team? Yes No

Are you currently a MDT member? Yes No If so, how long? _____

Send completed application and \$200 tuition check to: NorthWest Arkansas Community College

GNCPTC, One College Drive Bentonville, AR 72712 Attn: Rita Farrell