



2026 FAMILY SPIRIT

Training Brochure

Training Eligibility & Criteria | Training Schedule | Webinar Events

CORE CURRICULUM TRAINING

Trainees will learn basic home visiting skills and how to deliver the 65 Family Spirit Core lessons. Currently, there are three certificate types offered for Family Spirit Training that include: 1) Health Educator 2) Supervisor and 3) Refresher.

For certified Family Spirit Health Educators and Supervisors, refresher training provides the opportunity to keep their curriculum and implementation skills current, review updated curriculum concepts, and reconnect with Family Spirit affiliate sites across the country. This training can also benefit Health Educators who haven't used Family Spirit often or for those transitioning into a new FS Supervisor role within their organization.

ELIGIBILITY AND CRITERIA:

- FS Health Educator/Supervisor Certificate: Must be a current or on-boarding Family Spirit affiliate site.
- Virtual trainings will be offered twice in 2026 with limited availability for those unable to attend in person due to budget, travel, or family constraints. Because in-person sessions better support skill development and engagement, we encourage attendance at an in-person training whenever possible.



REFRESHER CORE CURRICULUM TRAINING

In 2023, the Family Spirit National Office began strongly recommending Family Spirit Health Educators attend a Refresher Training every two years after certification. This training is designed to strengthen implementation skills and deepen connection to the Family Spirit network. Participants will revisit key program elements—such as lesson fidelity and the use of the home visit structure—with an emphasis on maintaining clear visit focus. The training also offers a collaborative space for co-learning and sharing insights gained through experience delivering Family Spirit. Health Educators leave re-energized, confident in program fidelity, and equipped with updated tools and strategies to enhance family engagement and outcomes.

ELIGIBILITY AND CRITERIA:

- It is highly recommended Family Spirit Certified Health Educators participate in Refresher training every two years. This ensures attendees possess the foundational experience needed to enhance their skills and knowledge.
- **Refresher trainings will only be offered twice in 2026—March in Sacramento and September in Minneapolis**—to allow for larger group participation and an enhanced learning experience.





FAMILY SPIRIT CORE CURRICLUM HEALTH EDUCATOR TRAINING 2026 Calendar Year

All phases of training are included in the training package

For 2026, Family Spirit has updated the training format to be more comprehensive, reflecting the growing content and skills needed for Health Educators to support families and strengthen communities. This training is now offered in four distinct phases that will prepare trainees to deliver culturally responsive, high-quality home visiting to families using the Family Spirit model.

01.

Pre-Training Preparation (2 Weeks: Virtual/Independent)

Trainees will join two virtual cohort meetings (Kick-Off) and are expected to complete on-demand modules in the JHU CoursePlus platform. This phase builds familiarity with the training process, curriculum tools, home visit structure, and culturally responsive approaches while ensuring all needed supports and supplies are in place.



02.

Training to Learn and Practice (1 Week: In-Person or Virtual)

Trainees gather for 1 week of learning through role play, practice, and guided preparation for lesson delivery. Alongside these skills, participants are introduced to the foundational practices of home visiting—building relationships, supporting families, and fostering trust—so they feel ready to begin seeing families.



03.

Post-Training Learning Cohort (3 Monthly Sessions)

Following the training, the cohort will gather virtually once a month for three months to deepen skills and reflect together. These sessions focus on using home visiting tools, strengthening core practices, and exploring implementation considerations tailored to each community's needs.



04.

Affiliate Site Support Meeting (1 Session)

Following the Post-Training Learning Cohort, the training team meets with the site to offer personalized support. Together, we revisit tools, review program processes, and observe lesson delivery. This collaborative ensures each site is well-supported for long-term success. The site then enters into quarterly check-ins for ongoing implementation support from the Family Spirit National Office.



***See registration page for additional training phase details for
Refresher and Advanced Health Educator Trainings**

NEW

ADVANCED HEALTH EDUCATOR TRAINING

The journey of a Health Educator doesn't stop at Family Spirit Health Educator certification — families continue to face unique challenges and opportunities, and Health Educators need additional tools to serve families with confidence and care.

The **Advanced Health Educator Training** is a 4-day training that builds upon the Family Spirit Core Curriculum training to expand capacity to support families with greater confidence, cultural responsiveness, and flexibility. **Offered in-person twice in 2026 - June in Denver and November in Albuquerque.** This is a packaged training that integrates three complementary components:

Family Spirit Thrive Training –certifies Health Educators in the 3-5 year old Thrive module. Family Spirit Thrive is a 20-lesson curriculum (8 Foundation Lessons and 12 Pathway Lessons) designed to strengthen whole-family wellness, early learning, and cultural connectedness.

Social Support Visit Structure (SSVS) Training –provides a step-by-step alternative home visit framework grounded in Psychological First Aid. This approach equips Health Educators with practical tools to support families experiencing crisis, ensuring visits remain meaningful and supportive. SSVS includes guidance on when to pivot from planned lesson delivery, how to incorporate screening and resource connection, and strategies for Health Educator self-care. SSVS recommendations are also sensitive to the limited availability of responsive services often experienced in communities where jurisdictional and systemic barriers can impact access to care and support.

Enhanced Health Educator Competency Skills –reinforces advanced professional skills such as screening and assessment, cultural inclusion within Family Spirit implementation, health educator safety and self-sustainability, and partnership-building to support effective and locally responsive home visiting services.

TRAINING OBJECTIVES:

By completing the Advanced Health Educator Training, participants will:

- Deliver Family Spirit Thrive with caregivers of 3–5-year-olds.
- Support the mental, emotional, and cultural well-being of families.
- Respond confidently to family needs, including during times of crisis.
- Strengthen professional skills and educator competencies.
- Foster deeper connections with families, community, and the Land.

ELIGIBILITY: Family Spirit Certified Health Educators and Supervisors who have been certified and delivering lessons for 3-6 months.



2026 CORE CURRICULUM TRAINING SCHEDULE

Training Location	Registration Deadline	Kick-Off Meetings (Required)	Live Training (M-F)	Post-Training Days
Sacramento, CA (+ Refresher)	Friday, January 16, 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st: Tuesday, February 24, 2026 • 2nd: Tuesday, March 3, 2026 	Mar. 9 - 13, 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • April 6, 2026 • May 4, 2026 • June 1, 2026
Denver, CO (+AdvHE)	Friday, April 10, 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st: Tuesday, June 9, 2026 • 2nd: Tuesday, June 16, 2026 	Jun. 22–26, 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • July 21, 2026 • August 25, 2026 • September 29, 2026
Virtual Core Training (limited capacity)	Friday, May 15, 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st: Tuesday, July 14, 2026 • 2nd: Tuesday, July 21, 2026 	Aug. 3–7, 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • August 25, 2026 • September 29, 2026 • October 27, 2026
Minneapolis, MN (+ Refresher)	Friday, July 10 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st: Tuesday, September 8, 2026 • 2nd: Tuesday, September 15, 2026 	Sep. 21–25, 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • October 27, 2026 • November 17, 2026 • December 15, 2026
Albuquerque, NM (+ AdvHE)	Friday, August 21, 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st: Tuesday, October 20, 2026 • 2nd: Tuesday, October 27, 2026 	Nov. 2–6, 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • December 1, 2026 • January 12, 2027 • February 9, 2027
Virtual Core Training (limited capacity)	Friday, October 23, 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st: Tuesday, November 10, 2026 • 2nd: Tuesday, November 17, 2026 	Dec. 7–11, 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • January 12, 2027 • February 9, 2027 • March 2, 2027

***All registrations must be received by 5 p.m. Pacific Time on the day of the deadline**

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Register: FS Connect Calendar
Email: familyspirit@jhu.edu



SUPERVISOR AND LEADERSHIP SERIES

Hosted monthly on Wednesdays via Zoom at:
8am AKT | 9 am PT | 10 am MT | 11 am CT | 12 pm ET

JAN 21	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• First Things First: Building Key Leadership Skills• Six Fundamental Characteristics of the Best Workplace Leaders
FEB 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• How to Unleash the Power Within You!• How to Hold Employees Accountable for Their Performance
MAR 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Key Listening Strategies for Leaders• Effective Interpersonal Communication Skills for Leaders
APR 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Giving Crystal-Clear Instructions That Result in Action Without Any Misunderstanding• The Confidence Zone
MAY 20	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Attitude Adjustment Strategies that Turn Setbacks into Opportunities• How to Motivate Poor Employees (and everybody else too!)
JUNE 17	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Leading the Younger Generation• How to Lead More Experienced Employees
JULY 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Boosting Team Productivity• Building Trust and Respect: How to Earn the Right to Speak and be Heard
AUG 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• How to Handle Troubled Employees: Identify Them and Prevent Trouble Before It Starts• How to Give Feedback Without Causing Defensiveness
SEP 16	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• How to Give Bad News with Clarity and Grace• Resilience: Beyond Change Management
OCT 21	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Build Accountability and Trust with Positive Confrontations• How to Manage Emotions in Heated Conversations
NOV 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Managing Unacceptable Behavior• Essential Skills for Rebuilding Difficult Relationships
DEC 16	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Performance Coaching• Twenty-One Career Accelerators



The **Supervisory & Leadership Training** is a one-year, 24-course (two courses presented per monthly session) intensive program that looks to strengthen supervisory skills while helping to build a support network among other field-based supervisors and staff members.

This training is ideal for Family Spirit supervisors or health educators who are interested in learning supervisory skills.



FOR MORE INFORMATION

Register: See the FS Connect Calendar
Email: familyspirit@jhu.edu



FAMILY SPIRIT WEBINAR SERIES

Hosted quarterly on Wednesdays via Zoom at:
9 am PT | 10 am MT | 11 am CT | 12 pm ET

Join us!

These four webinars are hosted quarterly every year and focus on topics or themes we receive from our affiliates or the larger home visiting field.

Participation and interaction is modeled and highly encouraged between attendees.

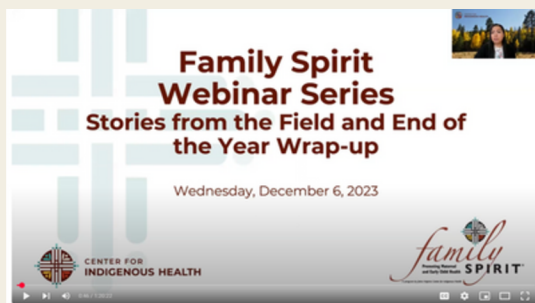
Feb 11, 2026

May 13, 2026

Aug 12, 2026

Dec 2, 2026

Past webinars include topics on:



Stories from the Field and End of Year Wrap-Up



Annual Curriculum Updates



Promoting Nutrition in Home Visiting



Screenings in Home Visiting



FOR MORE INFORMATION

Register: See FS Connect Calendar

Email: familyspirit@jhu.edu





TEA AND TA (TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE)

Offers an opportunity for Family Spirit home visitors and supervisors to connect, network, and share learning objectives.



What to Expect This Hour:

- **Model Updates** – Hear the latest on the Family Spirit model.
- **Digital Resources** – Get an overview of the Digital Curriculum, FS Connect, and Care4, plus help with access or troubleshooting.
- **Implementation Support** – Ask questions about lesson planning, home visits, and integrating THRIVE, Social Support Visit Structure, and Nurture.
- **Q&A + Story Sharing** – Share experiences and get answers to your questions.

1st Fridays of the Month at 9 a Pacific Time	3rd Tuesday of the Month at 10 am Pacific Time
Jan 9, 2026	Jan 20, 2026
Feb 6, 2026	Feb 17, 2026
Mar 6, 2026	Mar 17, 2026
Apr 3, 2026	Apr 21, 2026
May 1, 2026	May 19, 2026
Jun 5, 2026	Jun 16, 2026
Jul 3, 2026	Jul 21, 2026
Aug 7, 2026	Aug 18, 2026
Sep 4, 2026	Sep 15, 2026
Oct 2, 2026	Oct 20, 2026
Nov 6, 2026	Nov 17, 2026
Dec 4, 2026	Dec 15, 2026



QUARTERLY AFFILIATE REPORT WORKSHOP

Hosted on the First Wednesday
of each quarter at
9am PT | 10am MT | 11am CT | 12pm ET

Join the Family Spirit Data Manager
and Family Spirit peers to get a
quick overview and updates of the
report, ask questions, share out of
programs successes and
opportunities.

During this hour, we will:

- Discuss the purpose of quarterly affiliate report
- Provide support for technical difficulties with Care4
- Review standard data entry practices

FOR MORE INFORMATION

See FS Connect Calendar
Email: familyspirit@jhu.edu



JANUARY 7



APRIL 1



JULY 1



OCTOBER 7



Available in 2026

SITE-BASED TRAINING

Open to new and current affiliate sites



Are you an eligible affiliate site? Your program can submit a request for virtual or in-person training after meeting the following criteria:

- Choose which training you'd like to host: Core, SSVS, Thrive (or combination)
- Identify a minimum of **10-12 staff members** for certification
- Be willing to engage in collaborative coordination with FS training team
- Enter into contract with JHU CIH at least **4 months** prior to core training date
- Submit payment to JHU CIH **2 months** prior to core training date

FOR FULL EXPLANATION OF REQUIREMENTS

Email: familyspirit@jhu.edu



INFORMATION SESSIONS



Interested in Family Spirit but not sure how to get started? Join us to learn more about the Family Spirit Program and Curriculum Training for health educators and home-visitors.

1. Provide an overview of the Family Spirit program & curriculum
2. Explain steps to become an affiliate
3. Share helpful tips to prepare for training
4. Answer questions from attendees

Meet with us!

Second Thursday of
every month @ 11am
PT/12pm MT/1pm CT/
2pm ET!
See schedule to register
for next session.

**STAY UP-TO-DATE
WITH FAMILY
SPIRIT BY
SUBSCRIBING @**

<http://eepurl.com/dLYod6>

For more information email us at: **FAMILYSPIRIT@JHU.EDU**

Jan 8, 2026

Feb 12, 2026

Mar 12, 2026

Apr 9, 2026

May 14, 2026

Jun 11, 2026

Jul 9, 2026

Aug 13, 2026

Sep 10, 2026

Oct 8, 2026

Nov 12, 2026

Dec 10, 2026