Healing While Helping: A Trauma Centered Approach
Trainings Sessions to Equip Legal Professionals

Quality long-term legal representation is one of the most critical areas of support for families and children caught up in the current immigration crisis. As caseloads expand, legal organizations are stretching their own internal capacities while also receiving pro bono support. Many of these legal volunteers have little to no experience working with children in crisis and need key skills and knowledge to begin their work quickly and effectively in a culturally and child-friendly manner. The cases are uniquely intense and all professionals working with these clients will find their own resilience and psychological health tested.

ChildFund offers a rights-based, psychosocial training for legal professionals working with unaccompanied minors, separated families, and others impacted by this crisis. Trainings are available as webinar interactive presentations, or in-person. Content is organized into modules focused on:

• **Normative Childhood Development and the Developmental Impacts of Trauma:** Introduction to childhood development, how it can affect attorney-client relationship and information gathering attempts, and how trauma impacts brain functioning, decision making, and developmental outcomes.

• **Trauma Informed Care in the Legal Context:** Recognizing the impacts of trauma on developing brains, using the 3 Stage Model to engage with trauma exposed youth from intake to close of service.

• **Child-friendly Interviewing Skills and Engagement Strategies for Traumatized Youth:** Focuses on strategies, skills, and techniques for connecting and engaging with resistant and vulnerable children in culturally and developmentally appropriate ways.

• **Vicarious Traumatization - Self-care While Providing Support to Vulnerable Populations:** Factors to be aware of for those working with youth that have been exposed to traumatic events, identifying personal challenges, and developing a road map for self-care and a plan for responding to and reducing the impact of vicarious traumatization.

For more information on training options contact Ben Miller – Bmiller@childfund.org