**Supervising Interdisciplinary Partnerships in Child Welfare**

**Learning Outcomes**

1. The development of interdisciplinary partnerships in child welfare agencies can reduce funding pressures, assist workers with complex cases, and provide better outcomes for families and children.

2. Strong interdisciplinary partnerships emphasize the following factors: interdependence, collective ownership of goals, flexibility, newly created professional activities, and reflection on the process.

3. Interdependence involves the success of all members relying on the work of each member of a collaborative partnership; strong communication protocols and awareness of power and hierarchy concerns are pivotal supervision concerns.

4. Partnerships should develop collective goals that are aligned with the child welfare agency’s mission and clearly define the roles of each member, as well as the leadership and ownership roles for the case.

5. Partnership members should develop a flexible understanding of roles in order to identify gaps in service or protocols, but supervision sessions should consider the importance of role clarity within the partnership.

6. New professional activities that encourage effective collaboration between partners should be created as needed; these activities and processes may not translate for use outside partnerships.

7. Reflection on the collaborative process should be a regular aspect of supervision, adding legitimacy to the work; group supervision can add depth to these discussions.