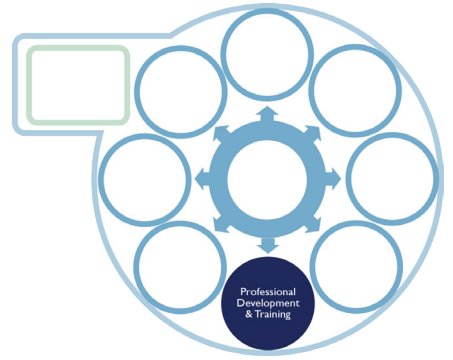


# WORKSHEET G:

## Explore Professional Development & Training



**STOP ⚡ Download, save, and work in your saved worksheet!**

### What is the Desired Outcome or Condition?

Staff at all levels are encouraged to learn and grow in an environment where principles of a **learning organization** are practiced and valued and resources are provided to support professional growth.

### How well is your agency doing in this area?

The following are sample indicators of an agency’s level of performance in this area. For each indicator below, consider and discuss the extent to which you think your agency’s policies and structures promote your agency’s overall performance, based on a scale of 1 = Poor, 2 = Fair, 3 = Good.





<u>Indicators of Agency Level of Performance</u>	<u>Rating</u> 1 = Poor 2 = Fair 3 = Good
Staff at all levels model the importance of ongoing learning and development and are supported in the transfer of learning, including <b>coaching</b> and mentoring, from training and professional development to job performance.	
Internal and external agency partners collaborate to develop and deliver a comprehensive and inclusive approach to staff development for new and tenured staff at all levels.	
Professional development opportunities offered by the agency are aligned with the knowledge and skill areas needed by staff.	
Skill and career building opportunities are offered to staff at all levels through multiple means (e.g., tuition assistance, partnerships with universities to provide classes or degree credits, professional membership dues, attendance at conferences, and training and leadership academies offered by the agency).	
Notes/Comments:	

## What strategies should your agency consider to strengthen this component?

The following examples include promising or effective strategies designed to address workforce gaps impacting an agency.

### For each strategy:\*

- First, consider and note in the table below: A = Agency Already Engaged, B = Interested in the Strategy, C = Not Applicable (NA) or Not Interested At This Time (NI).
- Next, consider how difficult it would be for you and your team to work within the agency or with partners to implement or strengthen its performance based on 1 = Readily Doable, 2 = Feasible But Will Take Some Effort, and 3 = Difficult.

<u>Examples of Promising or Effective Strategies</u>	<u>Implementation</u> A = already engaged B = interested C = NA or NI	<u>Level of Difficulty</u> 1 = readily doable 2 = feasible with effort 3 = difficult
Leaders at all levels practice and model the value of a learning organization by developing, using, and sharing research and knowledge in decision making and to improve the quality of practice and efficacy of services.		
Continuous learning by staff is connected to organizational goals and achievement of the agency’s mission.		
 <b>Coaching and mentoring</b> programs are offered to new and experienced staff to support ongoing learning.		
Supervisors are supported in their role in the critical  <b>transfer of knowledge</b> from the classroom to job performance.		
Knowledge and skill development is tied to  <b>performance appraisal</b> and other incentives such as merit increases, promotions, etc.		
The agency partners with universities to encourage or provide classes, degree credits, and advanced degrees for ongoing development.		
Other Strategies? Click  <b>MyNCWWI</b> for additional strategies, resources, and tools.		
Notes/Comments:		

\* This particular rating (considering whether the agency is already engaged or interested and then the “doability”) was adapted from the excellent resource *Self-Assessment Workbook for Building a Stable and Quality Child Welfare Workforce* by the Center for the Study of Social Policy (2006).