

## Clinical Utility of the CANS for Clinical Line Staff

**DATE & TIME:**

**May 12, 2026**

**9:00AM – 12:00PM**

*Please be aware that this is not a CANS certification training and does not replace the required online training that staff need to take to be certified with the CANS. Sign-in begins 15 minutes prior to the training time. All participants must arrive during the sign-in period. Late arrivals will not be admitted.*

**PLACE:** Web Broadcast – Microsoft Teams

**REGISTRATION:** <https://eventshub.dmh.lacounty.gov/Account/Events/Trainings/Detail/13656>

**DESCRIPTION:** The Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS) is a structured evaluation tool used for identifying youth and family needs amenable to intervention and strengths that can be capitalized upon. It provides a framework for developing and communicating a shared vision for addressing those needs. It utilizes youth and family information to inform planning; support decision making and monitor outcomes. This training will be aimed at Clinical Line Staff of DMH Directly Operated and Legal Entity programs who administer the CANS and the Pediatric Symptom Checklist (PSC-35). The material will cover the clinical utility of the CANS and discuss ways of improving the clinical use of the CANS. The training will further demonstrate the clinical utility of the CANS by applying it to a case vignette and provide an opportunity to rate some of the items from the CANS using a case vignette.

**TARGET AUDIENCE:** DMH Directly Operated and Legal Entity Clinical Line Staff THAT ARE CURRENTLY CERTIFIED IN CANS

**OBJECTIVES:** As a result of attending this training, participants should be able to:

1. Identify at least 10 strengths the CANS can bring to clinical work.
2. List two reasons why it is useful to be a data informed clinician.
3. Identify four scoring levels of the CANS and describe the therapeutic implications/meaning of each.
4. Describe how effective use of the CANS might put clinicians back in the transformation business as opposed to the paper shuffling business.
5. Discuss how to organize the needs from the CANS to develop a care plan.
6. Discuss how to organize the strengths from the CANS to develop a care plan

**CONDUCTED BY:**

**George Eckart, Ph.D.  
Christine Tanimura, Psy.D.**

**COORDINATED BY:**

**Kimber Salvaggio – Training Coordinator**  
[Ksalvaggio@dmh.lacounty.gov](mailto:Ksalvaggio@dmh.lacounty.gov)

**DEADLINE:**

**When capacity is reached.**

**CONTINUING  
EDUCATION:**

**3.0 hours for BBS, BRN, CCAPP-EI  
3.0 CE for Psychologist**

**COST:**

**None**