

## **Disaster Child Care**

**Course Sponsor:**

Disaster Child Care (British Columbia)

**Target Audience:**

ESS team members and adult volunteers who wish to support those who have suffered pain and loss.

**Course Description:**

This course is offered to ESS team members and volunteer caregivers who respond to children entering emergency reception centres following disasters. The purpose of the course is to train volunteers to provide specialized child care that focuses on using play to help children work through their feelings and regain control over their environment.

**Course Objectives:**

*Duration: 1.5 days (overnight stay in simulated disaster setting)*

- To learn appropriate responses to children suffering from stress and loss
- To demonstrate empathetic listening skills
- To understand the functions and goals of play in the child care centre
- To learn how to develop and use a 'Kit of Comfort'
- To set up a child care centre
- To demonstrate the planning and decision-making process when called for disaster response
- To learn the expectations of the caregiver role and ethical guidelines
- To examine motivations for volunteering and wanting to care for children in disaster

**Prerequisite:**

- Introduction to Emergency Social Services
- Reception Centre Operations

**Type of Instruction:**

Lecture, interactive activities, small group discussion, role play, manuals, videos

**Class Size:**

10 Minimum, 25 Maximum

**Course Location:**

In or near your community; often in a community facility or church building.

**Course Availability:**

ESS directors should contact representative: Donna Grobell

**Cost:**

\$30 for ESS workers (non-ESS-workers -\$50)  
Cost includes meals and manual.

**Point of Contact:**

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