

The G. Barrie Landry Child Protection Professional Training: 2026 program



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FXB Center
for Health & Human Rights
at Harvard University

fxb.harvard.edu

BACKGROUND

The G. Barrie Landry Child Protection Professional Training program (Landry CP Training) is a one week, on site intensive course for mid-career professionals who work to protect children from abuse, violence exploitation and neglect, whether at an international organization, a local NGO, or a government agency. While the conditions facing children may vary—from displacement to labor, from abuse and neglect to early marriage - all children, whatever their circumstances or legal status, have a right to health, education, justice and protection. Realizing these complex rights requires an integrated and multi-sectoral approach in which different state and civil-society partners act together to deliver a holistic system of protection.

The Landry CP Training will help participants gain a deep understanding of child protection issues and of the leadership and negotiation skills relevant to building and sustaining effective child protection systems.

Thanks to the generous support of the G. Barrie Landry Fund for Child Protection Professional Training and UNICEF USA, all participants at the Landry CP Training benefit from full tuition scholarships that cover all the Harvard University course fees. Participants are thus only responsible for the travel, accommodation and living expenses associated with attending the training.

GOALS

The training is designed to create a stimulating learning opportunity for experienced professionals involved with child protection issues. Taught by Harvard faculty with child protection-relevant expertise, the goals of the course are to:

- Ensure that participants understand the impact of violence, exploitation and abuse on children's emotional, intellectual and social development, including the traumatic effect of war and natural disasters.
- Familiarize participants with multidisciplinary approaches, analytical frameworks and legal principles, including those based on international human rights, that prevent and address child-specific harms.
- Ensure participants understand the components of a well functioning child protection system.

- Familiarize participants with data sources for child protection systems, the challenges of setting up such systems, the skills required for evidence-based advocacy, and ways to leverage digital solutions to solve child protection challenges.
- Teach participants coalition-building and leadership skills that enhance the ability to secure child protection policy and legislative reforms across governance domains (education, health, social services, justice).
- Harness the new knowledge and skills gained by participation in the Landry CP Training, to generate a set of options that strengthen the child protection system in each participating team's country and improve the quality of their national child protection plans of action.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

Mid-career professionals working in an area where child protection is critical, and who are committed to developing multi-sectoral leadership skills to enhance their impact, are encouraged to apply. Because this training is intended to strengthen national capacity, applications must be submitted as a cross-sectoral country team, with 3 members per team. The preferred composition of the country team is 1 member employed by government, 1 employed in an international organization and 1 employed by a local NGO. No applications from individuals will be considered for admission to the training.

Fluency in written and spoken English is required for participation. All applications will be considered and reviewed by the FXB Center for Health & Human Rights Child Protection teaching and training team. Admitted teams will be notified well in advance of the start of the program.

CURRICULUM

The course is thematically divided, with complementary elements distributed across the training week. Examples of past course sessions include:

- Leveraging Science to Protect the Developing Brain from Violence, Abuse and Neglect.
- Engaging and Strengthening the Social Service Workforce.
- Climate Change, Disasters and Child Well-Being.
- Negotiation for the Child Protection System.

- Child Protection in a Digital World.
- Juvenile Justice: Practice, Research Policy and Advocacy
- Social and Structural Inequalities and Children's Health

One of the key benefits of the Landry Child Protection Training program is that country teams develop practical and implementable solutions that directly relate to a real-life issue they are grappling with. Prior to attending the course, country teams work collaboratively to prepare a case study they will present at the start of the training week. Each country presentation outlines a child protection challenge and possible solutions to it that the team is facing and wishes to tackle. The training organizers will send participants materials to facilitate their preparation of the case study.

Past case studies have focused on a range of different

child protection issues. They include:

- specific child protection issues such as:
 - child marriage
 - alternative care
 - violence
- systemic child protection challenges such as:
 - inadequate legal framework
 - insufficient social service workforce
 - lack of reliable administrative data on child protection

Throughout the Harvard training week, participants use the research and concepts presented by instructors and developed in discussions to refine their case study. On the final day of the training, each country team presents their take-aways as applied to their child protection case. This final presentation is made to a panel of Harvard Affiliated child protection experts who provide Individualized feedback and suggestions to each team.

FEEDBACK FROM PRIOR PARTICIPANTS

100%

said the program met or exceeded their expectations

"I had a clear picture on how all countries across the world present here struggle with effectively implementing CP holistically, but we all try and are making progress in some way. And that unites us, the struggle and the refusal to give up. Coordination goes beyond borders and this space to exchange has been undeniably crucial."

"This training hit home. For years, I've been pushing against a system that keeps retraumatizing the very children it claims to protect. This week gave me clarity, language, and solidarity. I leave with renewed purpose—and I'm no longer pushing alone."



"Taking part in a course with exceptional and thought-provoking experts, both professors and colleagues from around the world, was an enriching experience and gives us hope to continue fighting for justice and a better world for all."

Health, dignity, and justice for every human



TRAINING LOGISTICS

Enrollment is limited to 30 participants (10 country teams consisting of 3 members each).

The week-long G. Barrie Landry Child Protection Professional Training program is held on the Harvard T. H. Chan School of Public Health campus in Boston, Massachusetts and taught by Harvard faculty and expert child protection professionals. The course runs from Monday midday until Friday midday.

Please email Rebecca Shin, Director of the Child Protection Program, at rebeccashin@hsph.harvard.edu to request an application form for your organization/team.

Participants are responsible for securing their required visa and other travel documentation.

Session Dates:

June 1-5, 2026

Training Cost:

Thanks to the generosity of the G. Barrie Landry Fund for Child Protection Professional Training and UNICEF USA all tuition costs will be covered for admitted applicants.

TRAVEL COSTS, ACCOMMODATIONS, AND ANY MEALS NOT INCLUDED AS PART OF THE TRAINING ARE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE ATTENDEES.

Application Deadlines:

In order to be considered for the training, please be sure to submit your application by December 1st, 2025.

Candidates will be notified of the admissions decision during or before the week of January 25th, 2026.



FXB Center

for Health & Human Rights
at Harvard University

fxb.harvard.edu
Intl+1 617 432 0656
651 Huntington Ave.
7th Floor
Boston, MA 02115