



## FIRST TRAINING ANNOUNCEMENT 2024

Finding Words/ChildFirst® NJ (FW/CF NJ) will be offering FIRST.

### Your FIRST Response to Alleged Child Maltreatment

Protecting children from child abuse and maltreatment requires that everyone understand how to recognize, respond, and report any form of maltreatment a child may experience. FIRST response is often the single most important step in effectively responding and reporting maltreatment.

FIRST will give you and your community the tools necessary to better protect kids. This half-day training goes beyond recognizing the types of maltreatment. Participants will learn the tools and practical skills to better communicate with a child during the initial outcry of maltreatment.

### The FIRST process teaches three critical components:

1. How to recognize signs and symptoms of abuse and maltreatment.
2. How to listen and respond to a child's needs.
3. How to report any form of maltreatment effectively and accurately to authorities.

Your FIRST Response to an Allegation of Child Maltreatment training teaches participants how to listen to children who have experienced maltreatment and how to gather the correct information needed in a way that puts the child's needs FIRST.

### Learning Objectives:

- Understand the reality of child abuse.
- Understand how to gather information utilizing the FIRST process.
- Understand the responsibility of mandated reporting and information needed for reporting.

### Who can apply?

The audience for this training will include anyone who interacts with children.

### Locations and dates:

Northern NJ FIRST Training on July 1, 2024:

- Morris County Public Safety Training Academy; 500 W. Hanover Ave; Morris Plains, NJ 07950

Southern NJ FIRST Training on August 23, 2024:

- Camden County College - Blackwood Campus; 200 College Dr; Blackwood NJ 08012 (Connector Bdg 105)

### How to apply:

All applications must be made at the Finding Words website:

<https://www.findingwordsnj.org/first-training>

If you have any questions or comments, please contact us at: [info@findingwordsnj.org](mailto:info@findingwordsnj.org).