

# EMOTIONS IN CASEWORKERS

RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS & PRACTICE SUGGESTIONS

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University of Pittsburgh, School of Social Work, Child Welfare Education & Research Programs  
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Thank you for participating in our recent research project about emotions in child welfare professionals! You provided us with a wealth of wonderful information, and we are hard at work on statistical analyses.

Please join us in 2022 for a series of newsletters and informational sessions where we will share data highlights and engage in discussions about their implications for individual and agency well-being.

**Thank  
you!**

*Findings from Dr. Marlo A. Perry's research project,*

*"Emotional awareness in child welfare professionals and its relationship with emotional variability, compassion satisfaction, and commitment to the field:  
A pilot study utilizing ecological momentary assessment"*

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## As a reminder, we were interested in learning about:



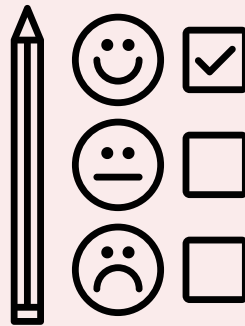
1) emotional intelligence competencies in child welfare professionals and how they relate to elements of professional well-being

2) the daily variability of emotional responses to typical work interactions, as well as any corresponding fluctuations in commitment to the field

## And we gathered the following information from participants:

### Emotional Intelligence Competencies

- Emotional Labor
- Empathy
- Energy Recovery
- Mindful Awareness



### Professional Well-Being

- Professional Quality of Life
- Organizational Commitment
- Mindful Awareness

Daily Variability in  
emotional and physical  
responses to work-  
related interactions

# Participant Characteristics (n=62)

- Predominantly white (90%) and female (87%)
- Average # years in public child welfare: 7.5 (range: 1-32)
- Average age: 36.2 years (range: 23-55)

## Primary Work Unit

- 43% Ongoing
- 25% Intake
- 7% Truancy/Outreach
- 7% Substitute Care
- 4% Adoption
- 1% IL
- 12% Other/Missing



## Education Level

- 2% Associates Degree (n=2)
- 65% Bachelors Degree (n=40)
  - BSW n=9
    - CWEB n=3
- 32% Masters Degree (n=20)
  - MSW n=12
    - CWEL n=10

## Participating Counties

