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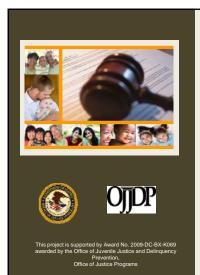
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Family Drug Court Learning Academy

Trauma-Informed Services

April 27, 2011

Presented by Norma Finkelstein, Ph.D., Vivian B. Brown, Ph.D., Ellie Oben, L.C.S.W., M.S.W. Children and Family Futures



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Webinar Agenda

- Welcome and Opening Remarks
- Importance of Trauma-Informed Care
- Defining Trauma-Informed and Trauma-Specific Care
- Bringing Trauma-Informed Services to Family Drug Courts
- · Questions and Discussion
- Next Steps

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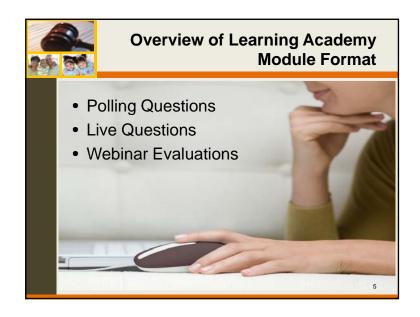


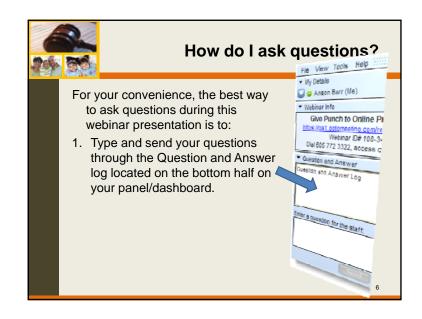
Introductions

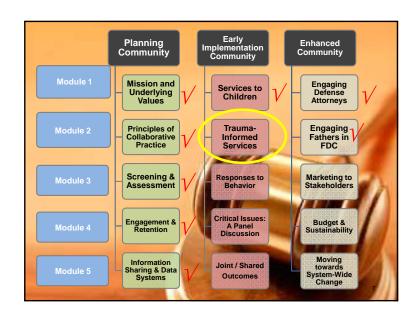
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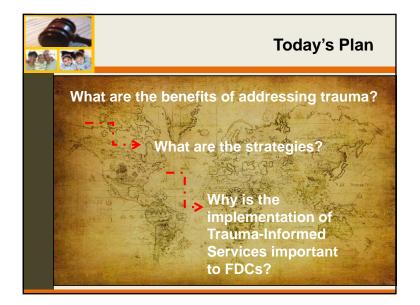
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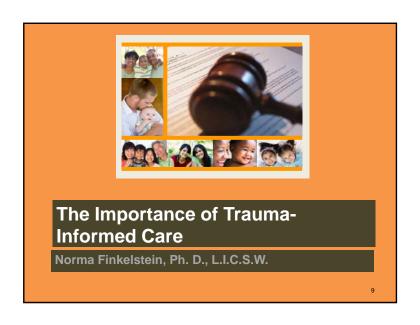
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Trauma Definition

- Extreme stress that overwhelms a person's ability to cope
- The subjective experience of a threat to life, bodily integrity or sanity
- A normal response to an abnormal event that results in a disruption of equilibrium

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Traumatic Events

- Physical assault
- Sexual abuse, including sex work
- Emotional/ psychological abuse
- Domestic violence
- War/genocide
- Accidents
- Natural or man-made disaster

- Witnessing abuse/violence
- Living in dangerous environment
- Historical trauma
- Oppression
- Experienced as an adult or child
- Occurred over time or one incident

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Why Trauma Matters

 A significant proportion of men and women entering services for substance use disorders have histories of trauma

Brems, 2004; Clark, 2001; Farley, 2004; Medrano, 1999; Moncrieff, 1996; Rice, 2001

 Women in community samples report a lifetime history of physical and sexual abuse ranging from 36% to 51%, while women with substance abuse problems report a lifetime history ranging from 55% to 99%

Naiavits et al., 1997

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Why Trauma Matters cont.

- Studies estimate 3.3 million to 10 million children in the United States witness violence in their home each year
- In 2003, approximately 910,000 children were found by child protective agencies to be victims of child abuse and neglect
- 1.8 million children each year have been victims of serious sexual assault

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Adverse Childhood Events Study (ACE)

- Sample of 17,000 Kaiser Permanente middle class American adults of diverse ethnicity
- · ACEs:
 - Recurrent and severe physical and/or emotional abuse
 - Sexual abuse
 - Growing up in household with:
 - · Alcohol or drug user
 - · Member being imprisoned
 - · Mentally ill, chronically depressed, or institutionalized member
 - · Mother being treated violently
 - · Both biological parents absent
 - · Emotional or physical abuse

Felitti and Anda, 1998

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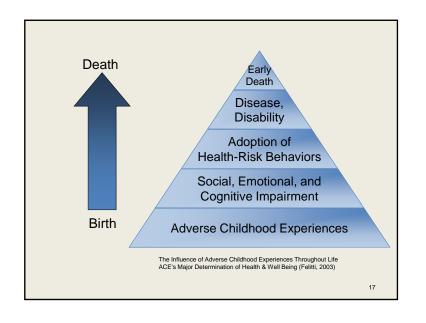
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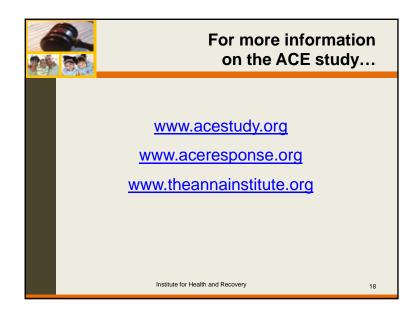


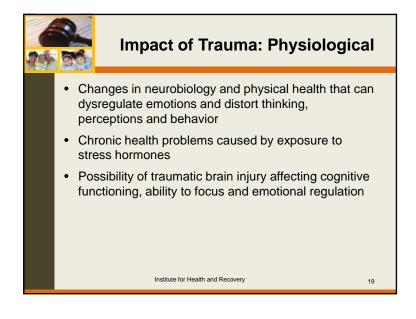
ACE Study

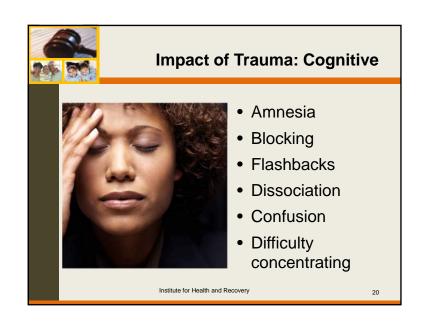
- Scoring: one point for each category of ACEs before 18
- · ACEs not only common, but effects were cumulative
- Compared to persons with ACE score of 0, those with ACE score of 4 or more were 2x more likely to be smokers, 12x more likely to have attempted suicide, 2x more likely to be alcoholic and 10x more likely to have injected street drugs

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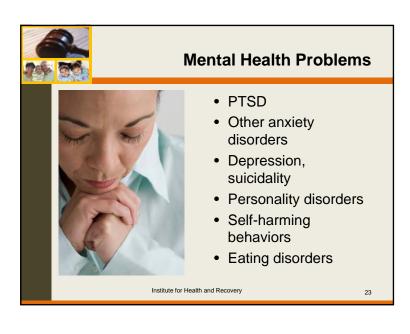
















Children and Trauma cont.

- "Toxic stress" affects architecture of brain
 - Routinely operate in "survival mode" can permeate every aspect of child's life and take on life of its own
 - "Stress response" becomes regular way of functioning, even when there is no danger. Cannot regulate or turn off survival strategies
 - Increases risk of stress related physical and mental illness

Shonkoff, 2005

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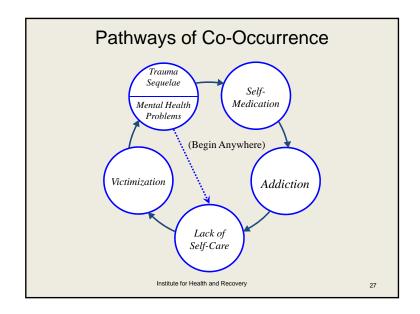


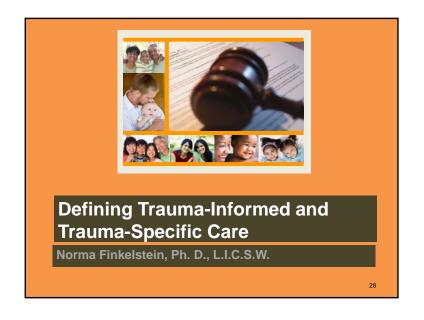
Childhood trauma/PTSD has high comorbidity with a number of other disorders including:

- Depressive disorders
- Attention deficit disorders
- · Anxiety disorders
- · Conduct disorders
- Substance abuse disorders
- · Explosive disorders
- Affective disorders



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Trauma-Informed vs. **Trauma-Specific Treatment**

- Trauma-informed; basic training/education to all staff—from secretaries to high level administrators understanding of trauma permeates every aspect of treatment milieu and interventions
- Trauma-specific treatment; educating fewer, carefully selected staff/clinicians to conduct actual trauma treatment

Fallot & Harris, 2001; Naiavits, 2006

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Trauma-Informed Services

- Trauma-Informed services are based on an understanding of the impact of violence and victimization
- · All treatment for cooccurring disorders should be traumainformed

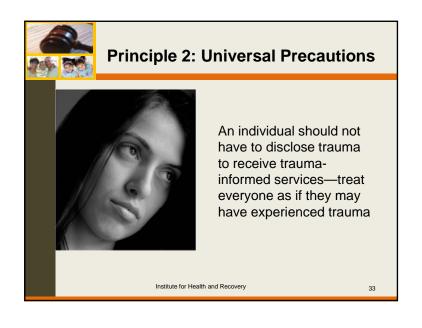


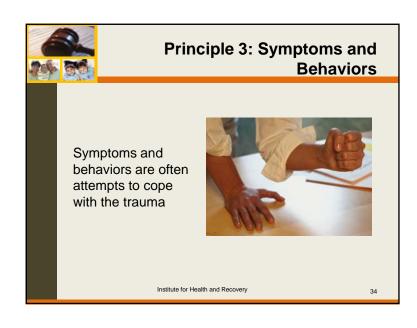
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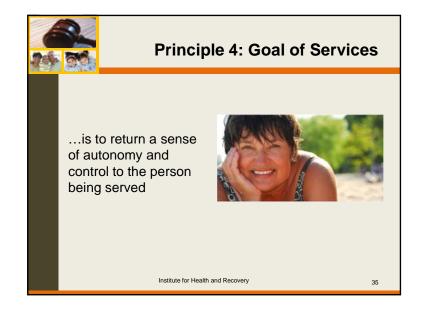
Principle 1: **Trauma is Central and Pervasive**

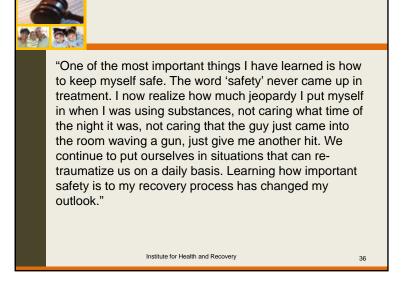
- Central to the development of mental health and addiction problems
- Impacts many aspects of a person's life

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Failure to Understand and Address Trauma Can Lead To:

- 1. Failure to engage in treatment services
- 2. Increase in symptoms (eating disorders, self-harm)
- 3. Increase in management problems
- 4. Retraumatization
- 5. Increase in relapse
- 6. Withdrawal from service relationship
- 7. Poor treatment outcomes

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Trauma-Informed Services

- 1. Establish as safe an environment as possible
- 2. Empower clients by working collaboratively
- 3. Support the development of healthy relationships
- 4. Build healthy coping skills
- 5. Provide access to trauma-specific services
- 6. Engage the whole person/family

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Establishing a Safe Environment

- Physical safety—from abuse/stalking by partners, family, other consumers, visitors, staff
- Emotional safety—in which a participant's experience is validated and his or her needs are addressed

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Establishing a Safe Environment cont.

Minimize re-victimization

- Avoid strategies such as:
 - Shaming
 - Moral inventories
 - Hard core confrontation
 - Intrusive monitoring
- Reduce triggering situations

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Procedures or Situations that May Trigger Prior Experiences of Trauma Include:

- Lack of control powerlessness
- Threat or use of physical force
- Observing threats, assaults, others engaged in self-harm
- Isolation
- Being in a locked room or space
- Physical restraints—handcuffs, shackles
- Interacting with authority figures, in general

- · Lack of privacy
- Removal of clothing—strip searches, medical exams
- · Being touched—pat-downs
- · Being watched—suicide watch
- Loud noises
- Fear based on lack of information
- Darkness
- · Intrusive or personal questions

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Service Elements of Trauma-Informed Care

Assessment for:

- · Current safety
- · History of trauma
- Trauma symptoms
- Substance use and abuse
- Mental health problems



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Service Elements of Trauma-Informed Care cont.

- Psycho-education for participants regarding:
 - Trauma (including domestic violence)
 - Impact of trauma
 - Relationship of trauma to substance use and mental health
- · Access to safety planning
- Emphasis on building safe coping skills
- · Access to trauma-specific groups

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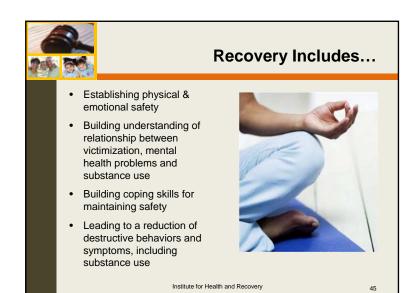
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Service Elements of Trauma-Informed Care cont.

- · Crisis Prevention Plans that include:
 - Triggers—actions or events that cause distress for each participant
 - Early warning signs that indicate distress
 - Participant's understanding of what helps them calm down
 - Agreements about what staff will offer in a difficult situation

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"Today I am inching forward with hope and a new sense of purpose. I am restoring and retooling my life from the ground up. I now understand how my damaged childhood affected my decisions as an adult and how I kept repeating these cycles throughout my life. I have broken a damaging life cycle and feel more confident than I ever have. Today my wounds are not so easy to read. They are healing as I get stronger and watch myself making safe, healthy life choices."

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Stages of Trauma Recovery

1. Stage One:

Establishing Safety

- Goals:
 - Securing & maintaining safety
 - Stabilizing symptoms
 - Fostering self-care
- 2. Stage Two:

Remembrance & Mourning

3. Stage Three:

Reconnection

Herman, Trauma & Recovery

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Trauma-Specific Interventions

- Services designed specifically to address violence, trauma, related symptoms and reactions
- Intent is to increase skills and strategies that allow survivors to manage their symptoms and reactions with minimal disruption to their daily obligations and to their quality of life; eventually reduce or eliminate debilitating symptoms and prevent further traumatization and violence

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Stage 1: Common Features

- · Cognitive-behavioral and relational
- Focus upon establishing both physical and psychological safety
- Increase understanding of links between trauma and substance use
- Teach coping skills
- Group curricula, but can be utilized in individual sessions
- · Can be co-facilitated by professional and a peer
- Promote safety, recovery and empowerment

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Trauma-Specific Curricula

- Seeking Safety—Najavits, L.M. (2002). Seeking Safety: A treatment manual for PTSD and substance abuse. New York: Guilford Press.
- ATRIUM: Addiction & Trauma Recovery Integration Model—Miller, D. & Guidry, L. (2001).
 Addictions and Trauma Recovery: Healing the body, mind, and spirit. New York: WW. Norton & Co.
- TRIAD—Clark, C. & Fearday, F. (Eds.) (2003). Triad women's project: Group facilitator's manual. Tampa, FL: Louis de la Parte Florida Mental Health Institute, University of South Florida.

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Trauma-Specific Curricula cont.

- TREM: Trauma Recovery and Empowerment— Harris, M. & The Community Connections Trauma Work Group (1998). Trauma Recovery and Empowerment: A clinician's guide for working with women in groups. NY: Free Press.
- Helping Women Recover—Covington, S.S. (1999).
 Helping Women Recover: A program for treating addiction. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass.
- Beyond Trauma—Covington, S.S. (2003). Beyond Trauma: A healing journey for women. Center City, MN: Hazelden.

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Trauma-Specific Curricula cont.

- TARGET-AR: Trauma Adaptive Recovery Group Education and Therapy for Persons in Addiction Recovery—Ford, J.D., Mahoney, K., Russo, E., Kasimer, N., & MacDonald, M. (2003). Farmington, CT: University of Connecticut Health Center.
- Helping Men Recover—Covington, S.S., Griffin, D., & Dauer, R. (2011). A Man's Workbook- Helping Men Recover: A program for treating addiction. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass.

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For More Information

 Finkelstein, N., VandeMark, N., Fallot, R., Brown, V., Cadiz, S., & Heckman, J. (2004, July). Enhancing substance abuse recovery through integrated trauma treatment. Sarasota, FL: National Trauma Consortium under contract with the Center for Substance Abuse Treatment. http://www.nationaltraumaconsortium.org/documents/ IntegratedTrauma.pdf

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Choosing a Curriculum

- · Look at research, evaluation studies
- Program values and treatment philosophy
- · Curriculum length and format
- · Group facilitator's expertise
- · Adaptations for specific populations
- · Cost, training, setting

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Integrating the Curriculum into Substance Abuse Treatment

- · Cultural adaptations
- Training for staff and supervisors
- · Pilot-testing the curriculum
- · Ongoing supervision and support for the new practice
- · Monitoring of fidelity

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Trauma-Specific Services for Children

- Trauma-Focused Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT)
- Parent-Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT)
- Child-Parent Psychotherapy (CPP)
- · Circle of Security
- Attachment Self-regulation & Competency: A Comprehensive Framework for Intervention with Complexly Traumatized Youth: ARC

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Adolescents

- Real Life Heroes (RLH)
- Structured Psychotherapy for Adolescent Responders to Chronic Stress (SPARCS)
- TARGET-AR
- Trauma & Brief Component Therapy for Adolescents (TBCT)

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For More Information...

National Child Traumatic Stress Network
www.nctsnet.org

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WCDVS Children's Sub-Study— Groupwork Manual

- Group curriculum for children 4-12 affected by a parent's co-occurring disorders and histories of violence
- Outcomes—involvement leads to sustained improvement in children compared to children receiving treatment as usual
- Curriculum at: http://www.nationaltraumaconsortium.org/documents/ Adapted Groupwork Manual 041904 Update.pdf

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WCDVS Children's Study

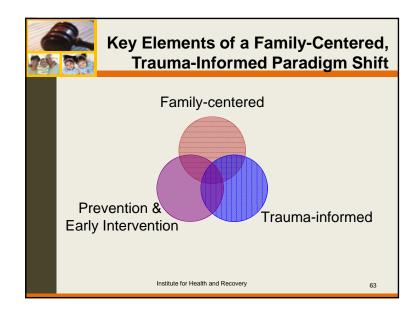
- Finkelstein, N., Rechberger, E., Russell, L. A., VanDeMark, N.R., Noether, C.D., O'Keefe, M, Gould, K., Mockus, S., Rael, M. (2005, April/June). Building resilience in children of mothers who have cooccurring disorders & histories of violence: Intervention model & implementation issues. *Journal of Behavioral Health Services & Research*. 32(2), 141-154.
- Van DeMark, N.R., Russell, L.A., O'Keefe, M., Finkelstein, N., Noether, & C., Gampel, J. (2005). Children of mothers with histories of substance abuse, mental illness & trauma. *Journal of Community Psychology*. 33 (4), 445-459.
- Noether, C.D., Brown, V., Finkelstein, N., Russell, L., Van DeMark, N. R., Morris, L., & Graeber, C. (2007). Promoting resiliency in children of mothers with co-occurring disorders & histories of trauma: Impact of a skills-based intervention program on child outcomes. *Journal of Community Psychology*, 35(7), 823-843.

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1. From Individual to Family Focused Approaches cont.

- Relationships with children strengthen rather than "overwhelm" the treatment experience
- Connection/ relationships are central to treatment; treatment aims to repair "disconnections"



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2. Prevention and Treatment are Intertwined

- Treatment for mother/parent is preventive intervention for child; strengthen family functioning, nurturing parenting practices
- Consider risk and protective factors for child independently from mother/parent
- Build resiliency and protective factors for children

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3. Trauma-Informed/ Trauma-Specific Services

- Understanding multiple and complex links between trauma and mental health problems in both adults and children
- Staff knowledgeable regarding the impact of violence and trained to behave in ways that are not retraumatizing
- Both adults and children have access to traumaspecific interventions

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Strategies for Creating a Trauma-Informed Organization

- Involve all groups and all aspects of program activities—physical setting and atmosphere, safety, nurturing relationships
- Administrative Commitment
- Training
- Hiring and Human Resource Practices
- · Review of Services and Policies

Community Connections, 2003

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Administrative Commitment

- Administrative leadership supports a long term commitment to providing trauma-informed services
- Top managers draft and issue a policy statement and/or amendment to organization's mission statement
- Form sub-committee of diverse staff and consumers
 - Provide feedback integrated into policy statement
 - Develop plan for moving toward trauma-informed services

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Training

- Select or develop basic training curricula
- Conduct training on basic curricula for all staff
- · Include training by survivors of trauma
- Incorporate training into new staff orientation on an ongoing basis

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Hiring and Human Resource Practices

- Hire new staff with knowledge/understanding/ experience of trauma
- Recognize and reduce impact of secondary traumatization on staff
- Training, safe to talk about, value self-care and connection

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Vicarious Traumatization

Changes that occur in the inner experience of service providers that come about as a result of empathic engagement with the consumer's experience of trauma

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Vicarious Traumatization and Staff

- Educate all staff on vicarious traumatization
- · Recognize that staff may be trauma survivors
- Incorporate concept into supervision and case discussions—make it safe to talk about
- Promote a corporate culture of self-care
- Build in supports
 - Safe coping skills
 - Peer connection and processing
 - Access to counseling

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Review of Services and Policies

- Review current policies and practices and evaluate for potential replication of trauma dynamics
- Develop a system for review of future policies in terms of trauma sensitivity
- Review agency policy and procedures with regard to development of trauma services
- Provision throughout organization of trauma screening, assessment, service planning, traumaspecific services

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"Once I became traumainformed, I remember realizing
one day what perfect sense this
all makes. I was able to finally fit
the pieces of the puzzle together.
Being a survivor was the reason I
drank & used drugs. Post
Traumatic Stress Disorder had
set in, & the drinking and using
suppressed my true feelings. I
am one among the lucky few. So
many of us have not solved the
puzzle—survivors, & providers."



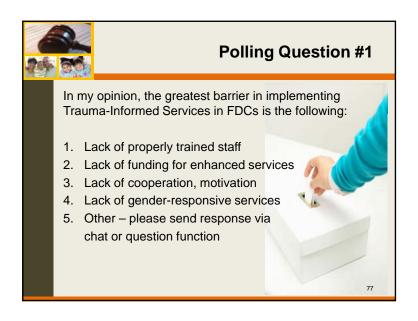
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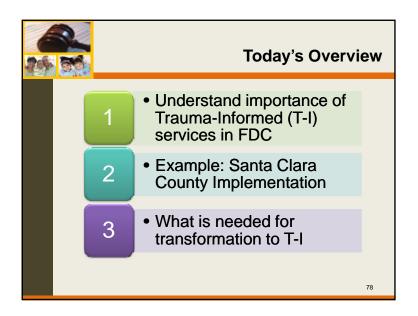
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Bringing Trauma-Informed Services to Family Drug Courts

Vivian B. Brown, Ph.D.







Importance of Trauma-Informed Services in Family Drug Courts

- High prevalence of trauma, substance abuse and mental health disorders in FDC populations
- Parents need to understand impact of trauma on them and their children
- Need to reduce possible re-traumatization of parents and children
- Need to maximize child(ren) safety
- T-I services improve retention in services
- T-I services improve family outcomes, including prevention of child disorders

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Failure to Identify and Address Trauma

- · May lead to:
 - Withdrawal from services
 - Inadequate or inappropriate services
 - Re-traumatization
 - Increase in relapse events
 - Increase in management problems
 - Poor treatment outcomes



Example of
Transforming a
Family Drug Court
to a TraumaInformed System:
Santa Clara
County, CA

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Steps in Process

- Initial conference on trauma with plenary and workshops
- Meeting with key partners and design of Action Plan
 - "What does Trauma-Informed look like"?
- Observation of the Family Wellness Court to assess triggers
- Design of a Trauma Assessment Walk-Through
- · Walk-Through of FWC with all key partners

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Steps cont.

- · Formulation of Plan, including:
 - Issues Potential Triggers Possible Solutions
- Open invitation for partners to use consultant to implement Trauma Assessments (or anything else that fit better for the agency)
- Trauma Training of Court Staff
- · Trauma Trainings for Agency Staff
- Development of T-I Children's Activities

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Steps cont.

- Training of child providers on the T-I Children's Activities
- Development of a T-I Parenting Module
- Training of Parent Training Coordinators on the T-I Parenting Module
- Ongoing Consultations and TA with system partners
- Access to EBP in trauma-specific interventions
 - Seeking Safety in DADS
 - Trauma-focused CBT in Mental Health



What is Needed for Transformation

- Commitments from all collaborative partners to engage over a long-enough period of time
- Multi-level training for providers & partner staff (e.g. court staff)
- Continuous system assessment and modification
- Trauma-specific services available in a number of partner sites
- Internal and/or external consultant(s) knowledgeable of T-I systems and trauma-specific interventions

