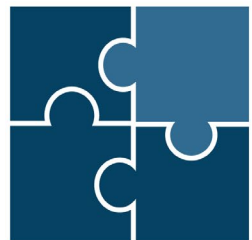


**Module 4:
Engagement and Intervention of
Co-Occurring Substance Use,
Mental Disorders & Trauma**

Child Welfare Training Toolkit



National Center on
Substance Abuse
and Child Welfare

Acknowledgement

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National Center on
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and Child Welfare

Learning Objectives

After completing this training,
child welfare workers will:

- Identify the core values and key characteristics of family engagement
- Differentiate between peers and recovery specialists with knowledge of the benefits to integrating peer recovery support services into child welfare service delivery models
- Understand and apply solution-focused and motivational interviewing techniques to support treatment and service engagement
- Define the stages of change model with actionable steps to enhance motivation and readiness for change
- Expand referral and linkage practices for enhanced treatment and service engagement and retention for children, parents, and families affected by co-occurring disorders

Family Engagement





**“People don’t care how much you know
until they know how much you care.”**

~ Theodore Roosevelt

Consumer Service Dissatisfaction

Activity Pair Share



Values & Beliefs

Core Values of Family Engagement

Encourage Voice & Choice

Listen, Value & Respect

Affirm Experiences &
Co-Create Achievable Goals



How Our Beliefs Guide Our Work with Families



**SUDs are a brain disease
and are progressive in nature**

**All members of the
child and family team deserve
to have a voice and choice**

**Parental substance use
increases risk of harm;
recovery decreases risk of harm**

**Every parent and family
is worthy of our best efforts**

**Children should remain
with their parents and siblings
whenever safely possible**

**People deserve second chances;
we do not give up on families**

**SUDs involve the whole family,
so we must serve the whole family**

Recovery works; treatment works

Engagement of Families Affected by Co-Occurring Substance Use Disorders



Everyone plays a role
in family engagement

Engagement starts at the initial
assessment/contact with families

We want families to succeed!

Key Characteristics of Family Engagement



Strength-based

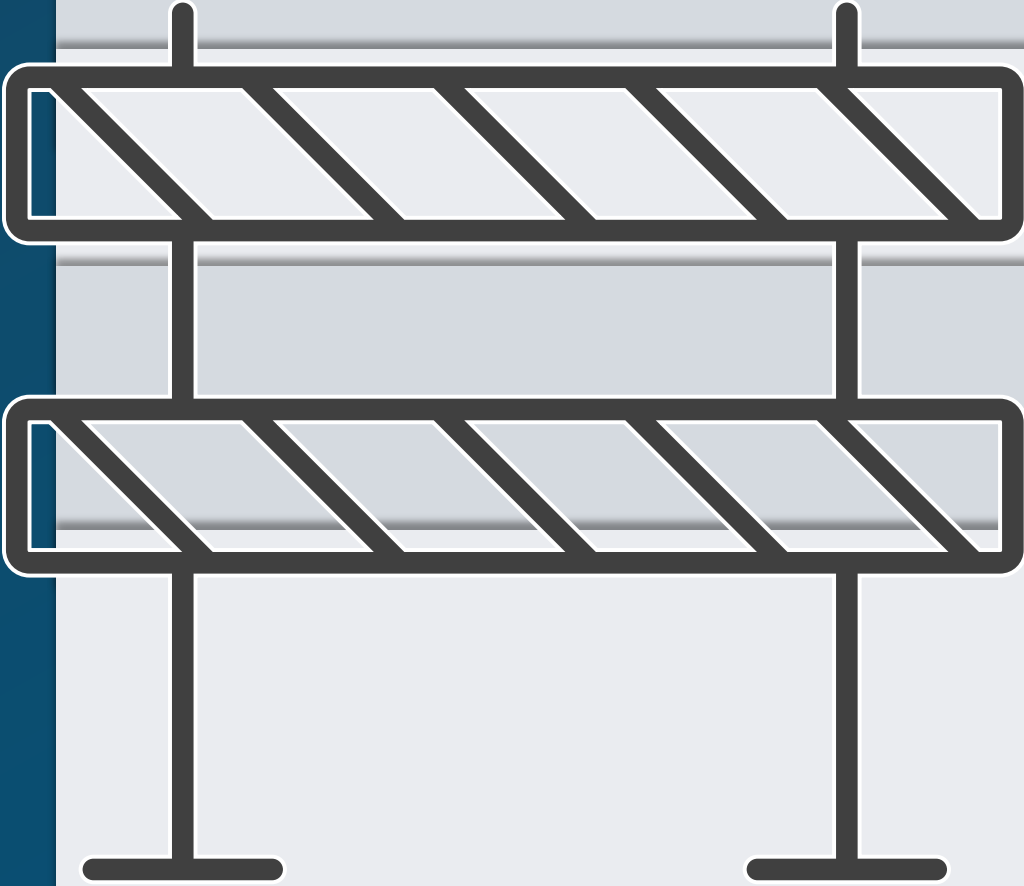
Culturally responsive

Collaborative in nature

Non-punitive and non-authoritarian

Viewed as partners in change

Family Engagement Barriers



Stigma associated with substance use and parenting

A parent's motivation and readiness for change

Fear of being separated or losing custody of children

Challenges navigating complex systems of care

A Reminder About Stigma
Reduction in Our Work
with Families Affected by
Substance Use Disorders

LISTEN

LEARN

RESPECT

STOP STIGMA

INCLUSIVE

INFORM

SUPPORT

EDUCATE

Peer Recovery Support Services

“Engaging people with lived experience represents one key way that federal agencies gather important information, shape programming and policy, and help improve outcomes for those served,” (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 2021)

"Through shared understanding, respect, and mutual empowerment, peer support workers help people become and stay engaged in the recovery process and reduce the likelihood of [a return to use]."

(Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, 2022)

"Peer support services can effectively extend the reach of treatment beyond the clinical setting into the everyday environment of those seeking a successful, sustained recovery process." (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, 2022)

Peers and Recovery Specialists in child welfare and dependency court models help improve family outcomes.

(National Center for Substance Abuse and Child Welfare, n.d.)

PEERS

**Experiential
Knowledge &
Lived Expertise**

- Peer Mentor
- Peer Specialist
- Peer Providers
- Parent Partner

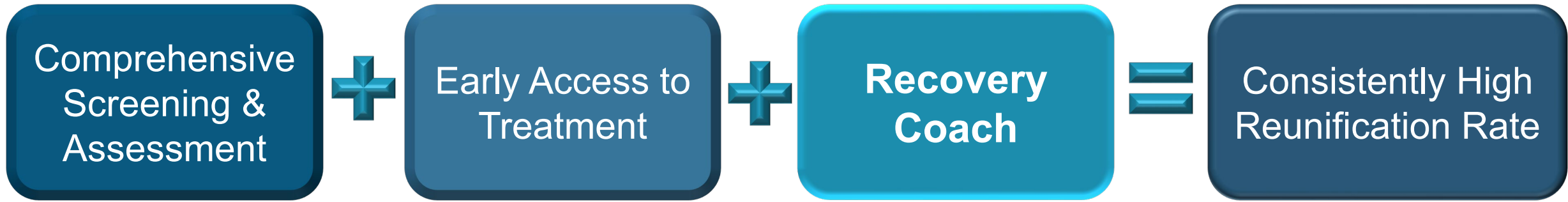
RECOVERY SPECIALISTS

**Specialized
Training &
Certification**



**Experiential
Knowledge &
Lived Expertise**

- Recovery Support Specialist
- Substance Abuse Specialist
- Recovery Coach
- Recovery Specialist
- Parent Recovery Specialist



Timing of Recovery Support Matters



Peer Recovery Support in Child Welfare

Family-centered

Includes support for
extended family/caregivers

Lens of child safety
and parental recovery



How Peer Recovery Support Engages Families in the Change Process Within Child Welfare Settings



Working with Peer Recovery Support

Small Group Discussion



Skills and Techniques for Building Rapport and Engaging Families

Helpful Techniques for Building Rapport

Empathy

Mirroring

Reframing

Partializing

Past Success
Inquiries

Solution-Focused Questions



Coping

Exception

Preferred Future

Position

Scaling

Let's Role Play

Small Group Activity

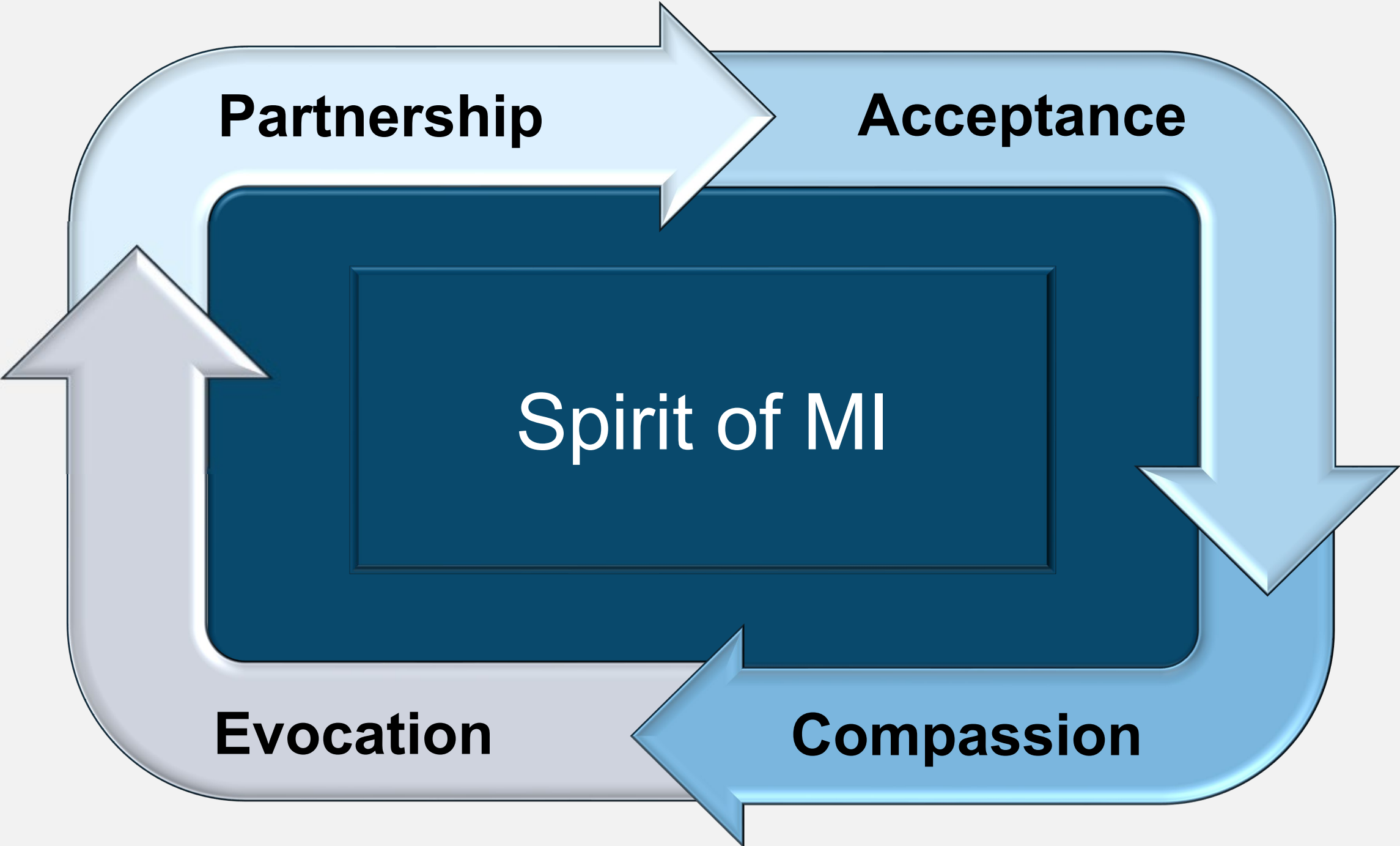


Motivational Interviewing

Motivational Interviewing for Substance Use Disorders

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[Video by Psychwire](#)



Partnership

Acceptance

Spirit of MI

Evocation

Compassion

Four Key Stages of MI

Engaging



Focusing



Evoking



Planning



Core Skills of MI

Open-Ended Questions



Affirmations



Reflective Listening



Summarizing



MI Change Talk

D

Desire

A

Ability

R

Reason

N

Need

C

Commitment

A

Activation

T

Taking Steps

Rolling with Resistance

Normalize ambivalence as part of the change process

Help the parent develop their own view of the problem and their own solutions

Avoid an argument or persuasion

Think dance, not wrestle

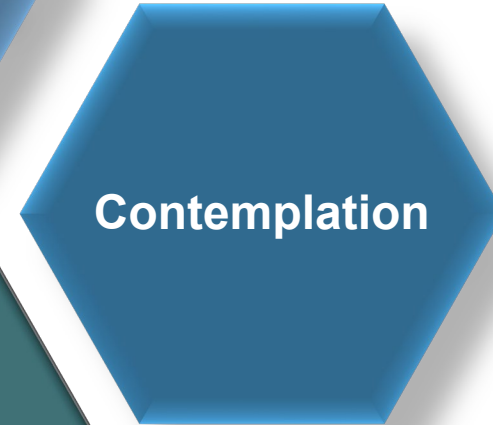
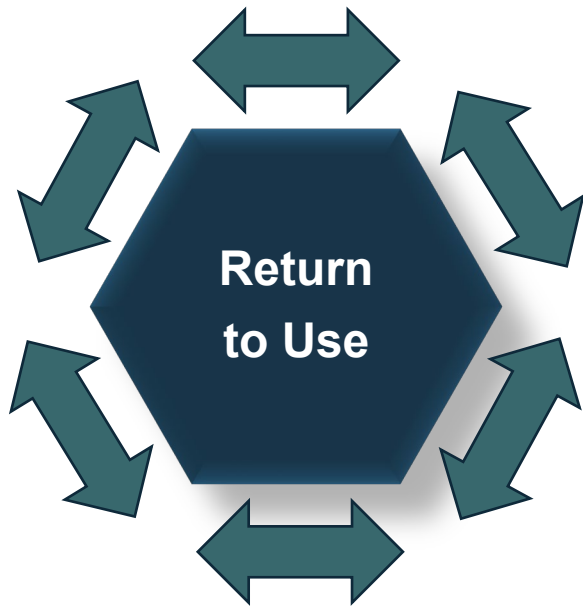
Use reframes to reflect on the resistance



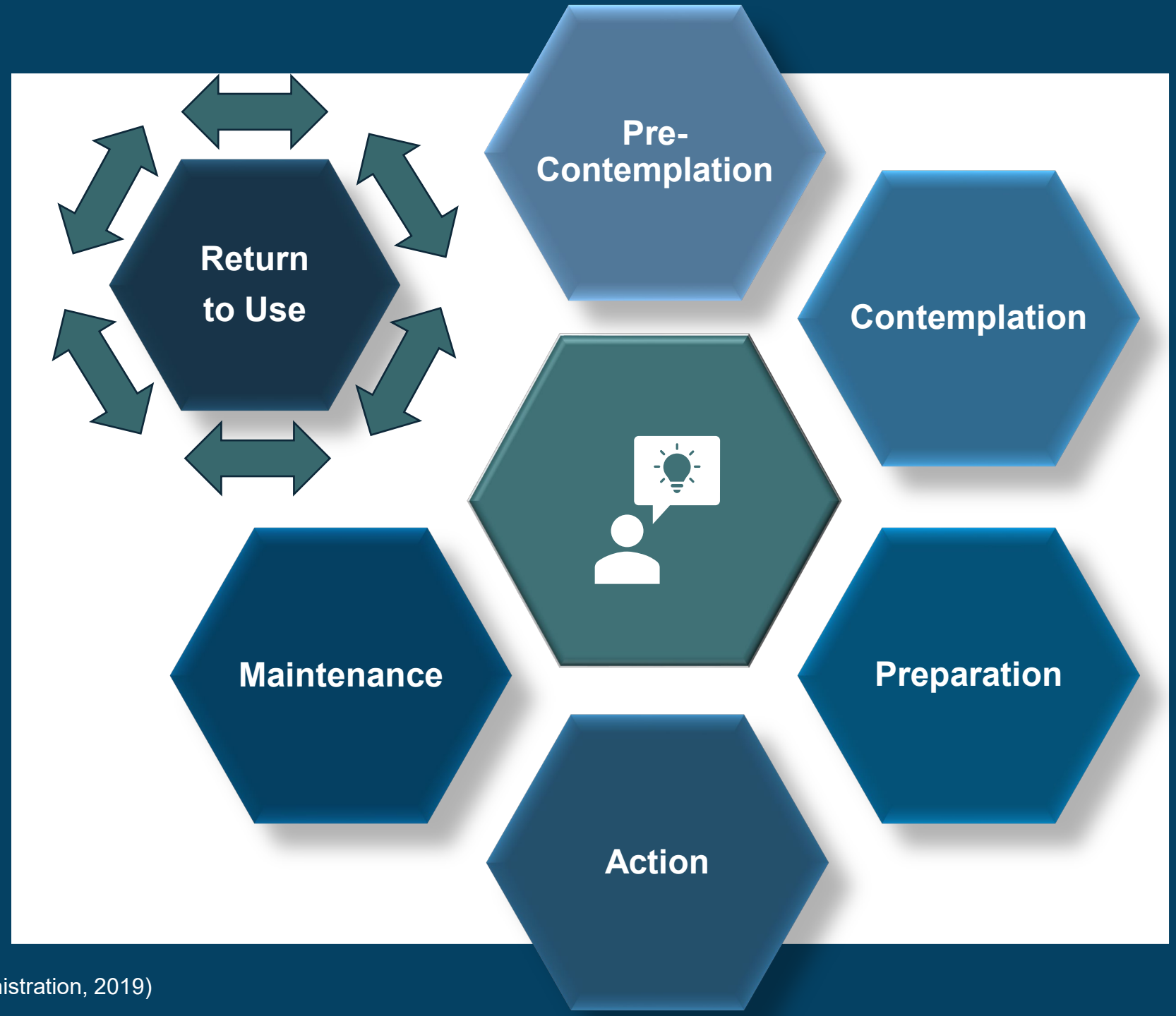
Readiness for...

C H A N G E

A row of six light-colored wooden blocks is arranged on a chessboard, spelling out the word "CHANGE". Each block has a single letter in a bold, black, sans-serif font. The chessboard's alternating light and dark squares are visible in the foreground and background, creating a sense of depth and strategy.




Stages of Change Strategies



Identifying Behavioral Indicators for Readiness for Change

Small Group Activity

A close-up photograph of several hands of different skin tones reaching towards the center, each holding a wooden puzzle piece. The pieces are arranged in a circular pattern, and the background is a bright, warm light, possibly from a window, creating a soft glow and highlighting the texture of the wood and the skin. The overall mood is one of collaboration and teamwork.

Important Considerations for a Collaborative Change Process



ASFA as the Lever for Cross-System Collaboration

No time to lose

Conflicting timelines

Working on behalf of children
and families with urgency

What Can You Do to Help?

Screen, refer, and link to high quality treatment providers

Emphasize family voice and choice in service planning

Help parents engage and remain in treatment



Respond appropriately to return to use and support sustained recovery

? Help parents understand dependency court requirements

Work with attorneys and the courts



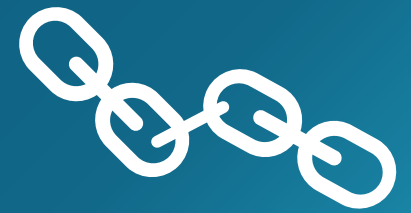


Reshaping the Dialogue About Treatment Readiness

Rethinking “Rock Bottom”

Embracing “Raising the Bottom”

Referral & Linkage to Comprehensive Treatment and Recovery Support Services



High-Quality
SUD treatment

LGBTQIA2S+
Affirmative
Treatment

Peer Support
Models

Fatherhood
Initiatives

Food, Housing,
and Other
Concrete
Supports

Family
Residential
Programs

Integrated Care
Providers

Recovery-
Oriented
Resources

Parenting
Support
Services

Healthcare
Services

Gender-
Specific
Treatment

Specialized
Adult Mental
Health
Programs

Vocation and
Education
Services

Subsidized
Childcare
Services



Community Resource Mapping

Small Group Activity



*“Here’s a referral—
Let me know when
you make contact.”*

*“They’ll get into
treatment if they
really want it.”*



Avoid Missed Opportunities

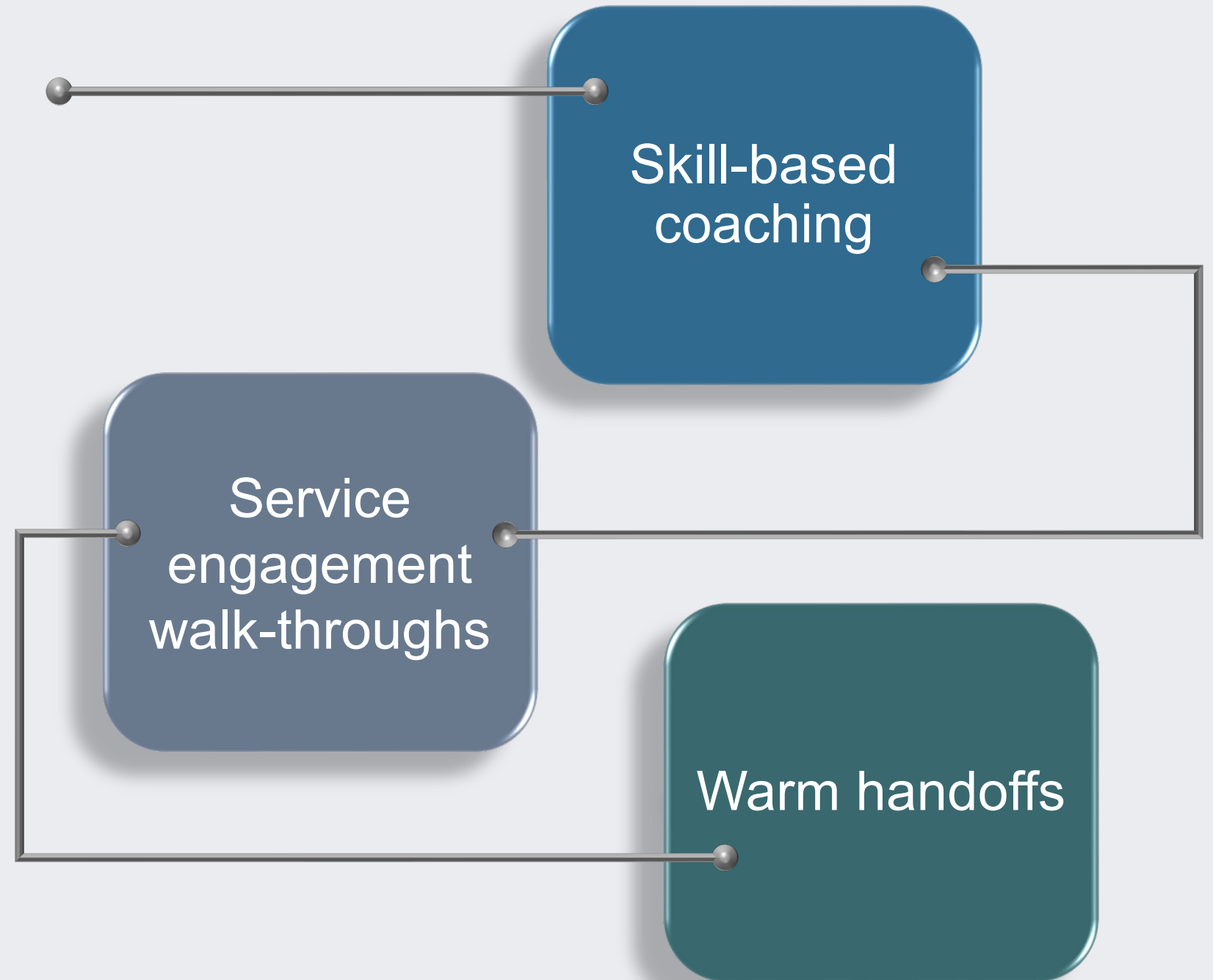


*“Don’t work harder
than the client.”*



*“We will see you back
here in 90 days.”*

Referral & Linkage Strategies



Recovery Is Possible

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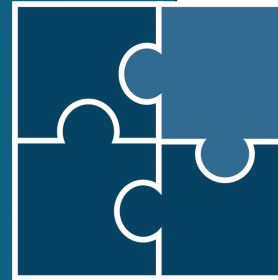
[Stories of Hope: Mallie's Story](#)

Contact

Contact the NCSACW TTA Program

Connect with programs that are developing tools and implementing practices and protocols to support their collaborative

Training and technical assistance to support collaboration and systems change



National Center on Substance Abuse and Child Welfare



<https://ncsacw.acf.hhs.gov/>



ncsacw@cffutures.org



Toll-Free @ 1-866-493-2758

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Resources

Resources

- Casey Family Programs: [*Strong Families Issue Brief: What Are Some of the Strategies Being Used to Reunite Families with Substance Use Disorders?*](#) (2017)
- National Center on Substance Abuse and Child Welfare: [*Engagement and Safety Decision-Making in Substance Use Disorder Cases*](#) (2023)
- National Center on Substance Abuse and Child Welfare: [*Planning for Safety in Cases When Parental Substance Use Disorder is Present*](#) (2023)
- National Center on Substance Abuse and Child Welfare: [*The Use of Peers and Recovery Specialists in Child Welfare Settings*](#) (2019)
- National Center on Substance Use and Child Welfare: [*Understanding Engagement of Families Affected by Substance Use Disorders – Child Welfare Practice Tips*](#) (2022)
- Peer Recovery Center of Excellence: [*Peer Recovery Now*](#) (2023)
- Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration: [*Treatment Improvement Protocol \(TIP\) Series 42 Substance Abuse Treatment for Persons with Co-Occurring Disorders*](#) (2020)