RESILIENCE IN CIVIL SOCIETY:
ACHIEVING STRUCTURAL CHANGE THROUGH SYSTEM,
COMMUNITY AND INDIVIDUAL INTERVENTION

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LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Explore civil society’s abdication of responsibility for structural violence
- Transform individual therapeutic intervention and challenge the concept of ethical accountability
- Engage the informal end of the restorative continuum to prevent violence at the individual, community and system level through community collaboration
- Explore methods for achieving Collaborative Coordinated Access that fosters accountability and restores relationships
- Outline strategies that will address barriers to achieving collective impact through community collaboration
“The concept of personhood that figures most prominently in contemporary Western ethical and political theory is that of the independent, rational, self-aware, self-reliant, self-interested individual thoroughly (if not obsessively) engaged in the autonomous pursuit of his interests”

(Baylis, 2012, p. 112)
RELATIONAL THEORY

No one is fully independent... the view of individuals as isolated social units is not only false but impoverished: much of who we are and what we value is rooted in our relationships and affinities with others... all persons are, to a significant degree, socially constructed... their identities, values, concepts, and perceptions are, in large measure, products of their social environment

(Sherwin, 1998, p. 34)
DIRECT VIOLENCE

COMMUNITY VIOLENCE

STRUCTURAL VIOLENCE

LOOKING FOR THE UNEXPECTED FABULOUSNESS WITHIN EACH OF US

(Galtung, 1990)
FAIR + EXPLICIT PRACTICE

(Wachtel, 2016, p. 3)
Restorative Language

Impromptu Convos/Restorative Questions

Circles

Formal Conference

Making, Developing and Maintaining Relationships

Repairing Harm

Proactive

Responsive

(Wachtel, 2016, p. 4)
RESTORATIVE APPROACHES

➢ As a community we embrace person-centered practice, meeting our clients where they are at, working with and supporting them as they navigate challenges and successes in their lives.

➢ If we embrace Restorative Practices in our social structures and community based work it will allow us to:
  • Challenge ourselves to alter the way we think about relationships and community development
  • Utilize integrative ways to practice that compliment traditional approaches and practices, giving voice and encouraging accountability through reflection
  • Develop capacity in communities and institutions to achieve prevention

(Fraser & Seymour, 2017)
INDIVIDUAL LEVEL

Families
Individuals
Children
COMMUNITY HUB

COORDINATED ACCESS

Families
Individuals
Children

GOVERNMENT LEVEL
COMMUNITY LEVEL
INDIVIDUAL LEVEL
Gill & Theriault, 2005

COMMUNITY COLLABORATION

Culture Diversity
Education & Literacy
Gender
Inclusion

Income
Housing
Sexuality

Childhood Experiences

Employment Work Conditions

Biology/Genetic Endowment
Food Security

Access to Services

Physical Environment

Health Behaviours
THE IMPORTANCE OF RELATIONSHIPS

- Encourages folks to have increased comfort and ownership during difficult conversations and provides the level of trust that is necessary for open and honest communication
- Hanging in there with those we have the privilege of working with, our community partners and the systems we all work within to achieve violence prevention
INTEGRATING RESTORATIVE PRACTICES

Restorative Practice Check List

- Practice is Explicit
- Practice is Fair
- Focus on Repairing Harm and Building/Restoring Relationships
- Fosters Empathy, Responsibility and Accountability
- Promotes the Likelihood of Positive Behavioural Change

(Wachtel, 1999)
ACHIEVING COLLECTIVE IMPACT: ADDRESSING BARRIERS

- What is Ultimately Required?
- Collective Critical Reflection
- Silence the Attack
SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHY


The Nova Scotia Trauma Informed Network http://www.novascotiatraumainformednetwork.org
