THEORETICAL FOUNDATIONS OF WRAPAROUND: IMPLICATIONS FOR PRACTICE

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Problem of Engagement in EBP's
- National Health Survey (2008) finds that over 70% of families with a child with SED do not seek, start or complete services
- Families tell us that this is based on past experiences with professional staff, treatment irrelevance, lack of individualization of services
- Many of youth who do show progress and complete a service component do not have lasting progress
- Youth and family engagement is critical

The Theory of Change
- is why we do wraparound
- identifies the mechanisms of change that differentiate it from other service coordination processes
- defines expectations for what we hope to accomplish through wraparound

Theory of Change for Wraparound
Why Does Wraparound Work?

Youth and Family Defined Needs
- Based on emerging needs theory
- When youth and families define needs services are more relevant
- When teams brainstorm ideas to address needs they come up with more and better options
- When youth and families select the options that will work best for them services are individualized
- All of this improves family engagement

Theory of Change for Wraparound
Why Does Wraparound Work?
**SELF EFFICACY**
- Self efficacy is defined as a belief that what you do will work.
- People with higher self efficacy are more engaged.
- People with higher self efficacy will try longer and try harder things.
- Success is the primary determinant of self efficacy.

**NATURAL SUPPORTS**
- People with stronger social/natural support systems have better outcomes in many wellness areas.
- Natural supports can help families develop plans that will work for them.
- Natural supports have great influence over youth and family follow through with plans.
- Natural supports are there for youth and families over time and help sustain improved outcomes.

**INTEGRATED PLANS - IMPLEMENTATION**
- To support self efficacy plans need to focus on the few things that are most important to the youth and family at a time.
- Most families in wraparound have needs that involve multiple systems.
- Consistent and focused plans work the best.
- Integrated plans focus on the whole family and include their natural supports.

**THEY SHOULD CONTINUALLY ASK “HOW DOES WHAT I AM DOING NOW?”**
- Work on the needs that are most important to the family?
- Impact the confidence and ability of the youth and family to get their own needs met?
- Support building, strengthening and sustaining the natural support system for the youth and family?
- Foster integration of effort by those helping the family?