



# Trauma-Informed Training

A CORE CURRICULUM FOR ENTITIES SERVING CHILDREN AND FAMILIES IN WISCONSIN

Developed by Jessica Dallman, MA LPC NCC Natural Wisdom Counseling LLC

Adapted and Presented by: Erica Boos and Emma Field

## Acknowledgments and Influencers:

#### Training and Research

- University of Wisconsin Milwaukee (Bachelors in Social Work)
- University of Minnesota (Bachelors in Family Social Science)
- Infant, Early Childhood, and Family Mental Health
- Dr. Daniel Siegel, Interpersonal Neurobiology
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- Dr. Gabor Maté
- Resmaa Menakem
- Jon Kabat Zinn, Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction
- Eva Selhub, Your Brain on Nature
- NCTSN
- SAMHSA

#### Mentors and Colleagues

- Jess Dallman, MA, LPC
- Priscilla Wallace (RS)
- Virginia Lopez
- Turningpoint staff, clients and volunteers
- Family and chosen family

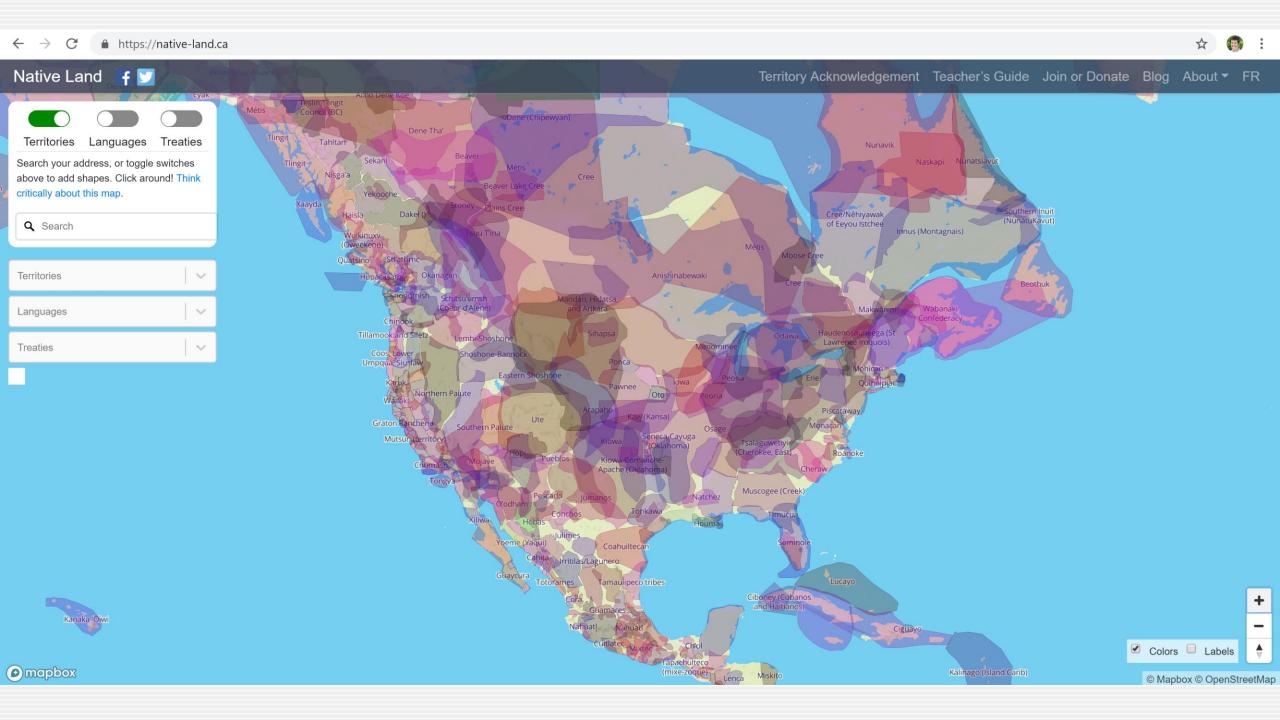


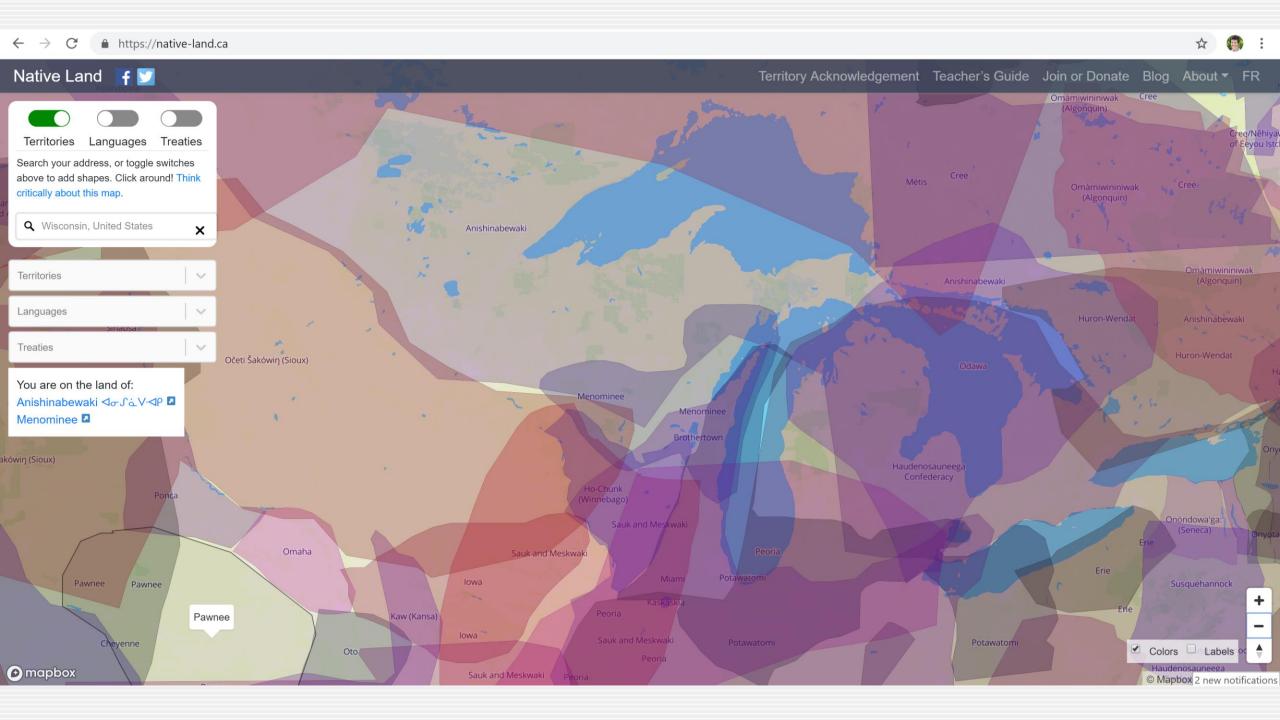
### How we got here...

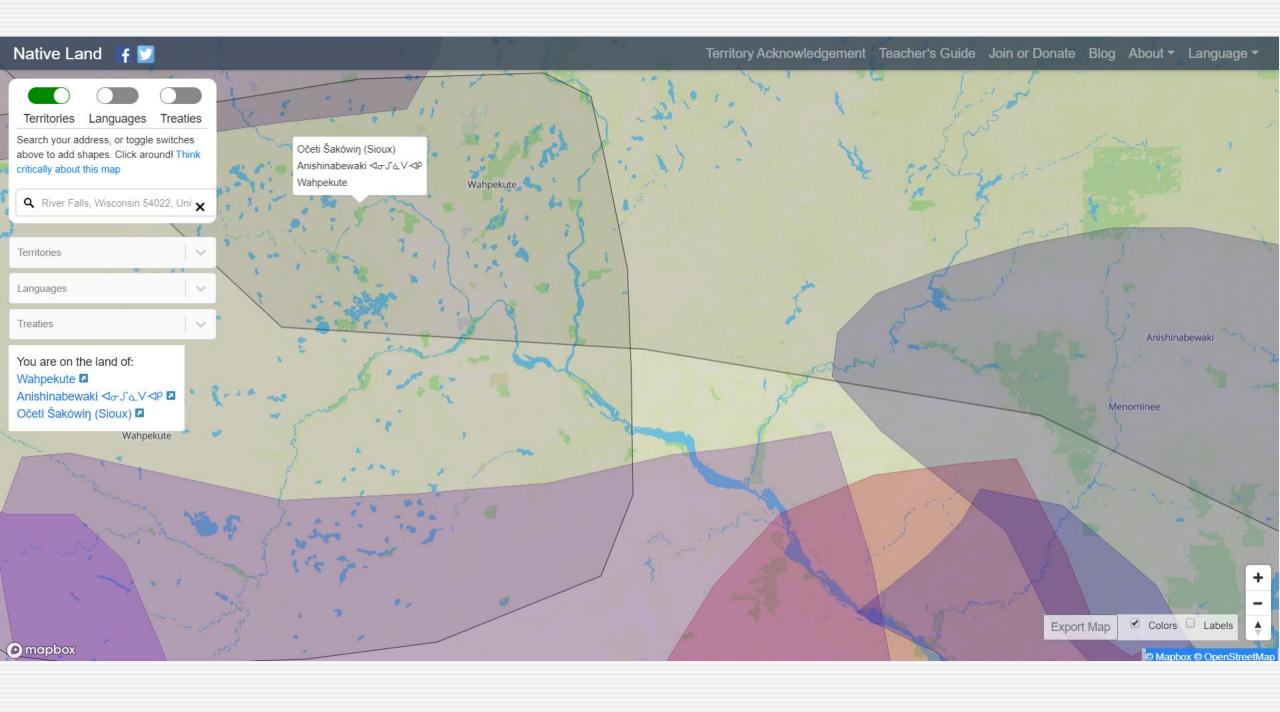
- Emma went to one of the first WI Hawthorn Project trainings in the Fall of 2018.
- Applied during second year of the project in Summer of 2019 and were accepted!
- Attended the first in-person training October 21st, 2019.
- Have participated in multiple video meetings with the Tier 1 and our individual mentors. As well as homework assignments (readings, webinars, assessments, videos)
- Created TIC handouts for our organization
- Adapted the curriculum for Turningpoint all staff meeting on Zoom
- Attended a final training at end of June
- Present curriculum to staff

### Objectives

- Participants will be able to define trauma and the different types of trauma.
- Participants will become familiar with signs and symptoms of trauma.
- Participants will discuss Trauma Informed Care principles.
- Participants will explore the parallel process of trauma, resilience, and recovery among children, families, providers, and systems.
- Participants will practice strategies for cultivating resilience (and regulation) in self, team, and clientele.
- Participants will identify aspects of bias, oppression, and intersectional adversity throughout the training.











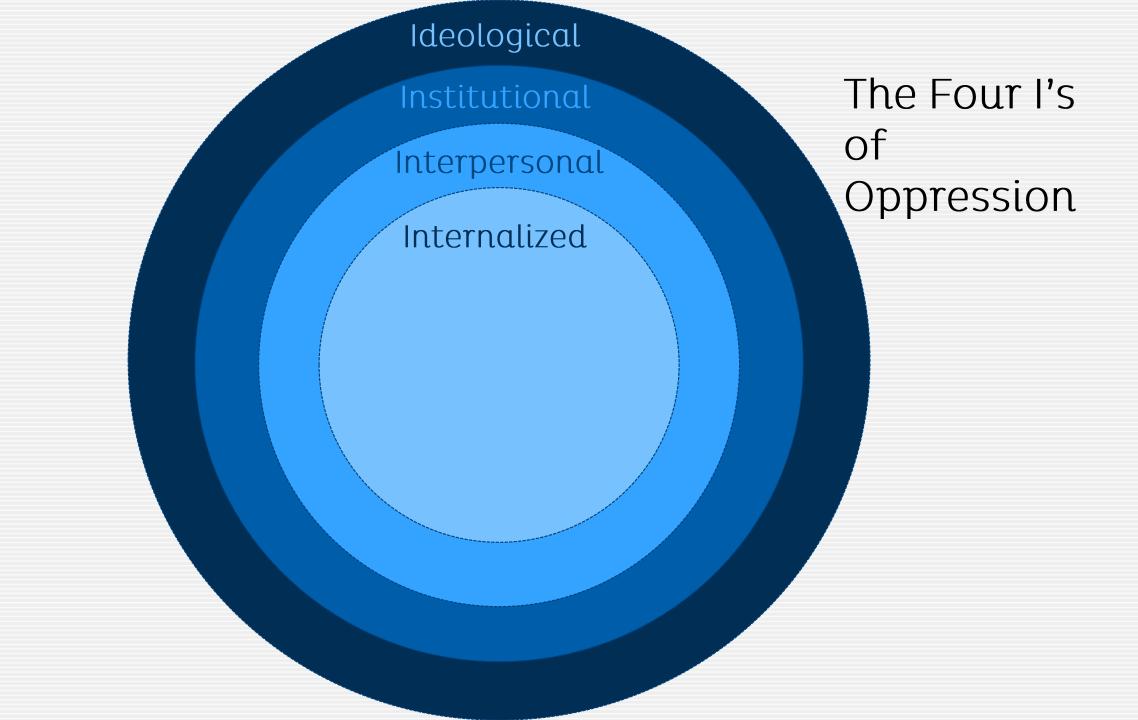
# Co-Creating Brave Space

- Stay Engaged
- Expect Non-Closure
- Express Your Truth
- Experience Discomfort
- Honor the Author



# Training Principles/Underlying Assumptions

- Experience shapes who we are.
- Relationships are the crux of Trauma-Informed Care.
  - We are hurt in relationship and we heal in relationship.
- Behavior is communication.
  - All behavior is an attempt to find regulation.
- Humans tend to be pleasure-seeking and pain-avoidant.
- Trauma and oppression are inherently connected.
- We all cause harm.
- Trauma is experienced (and processed) in the body.



### Ideological

The Four I's of Oppression

Dominant thoughts, ways of knowing, and paradigms (generally associated with values and judgements)

Ideological

Institutional

The Four I's of Oppression

Ways in which policies, rules, laws, and systems reinforce the dominant ideology

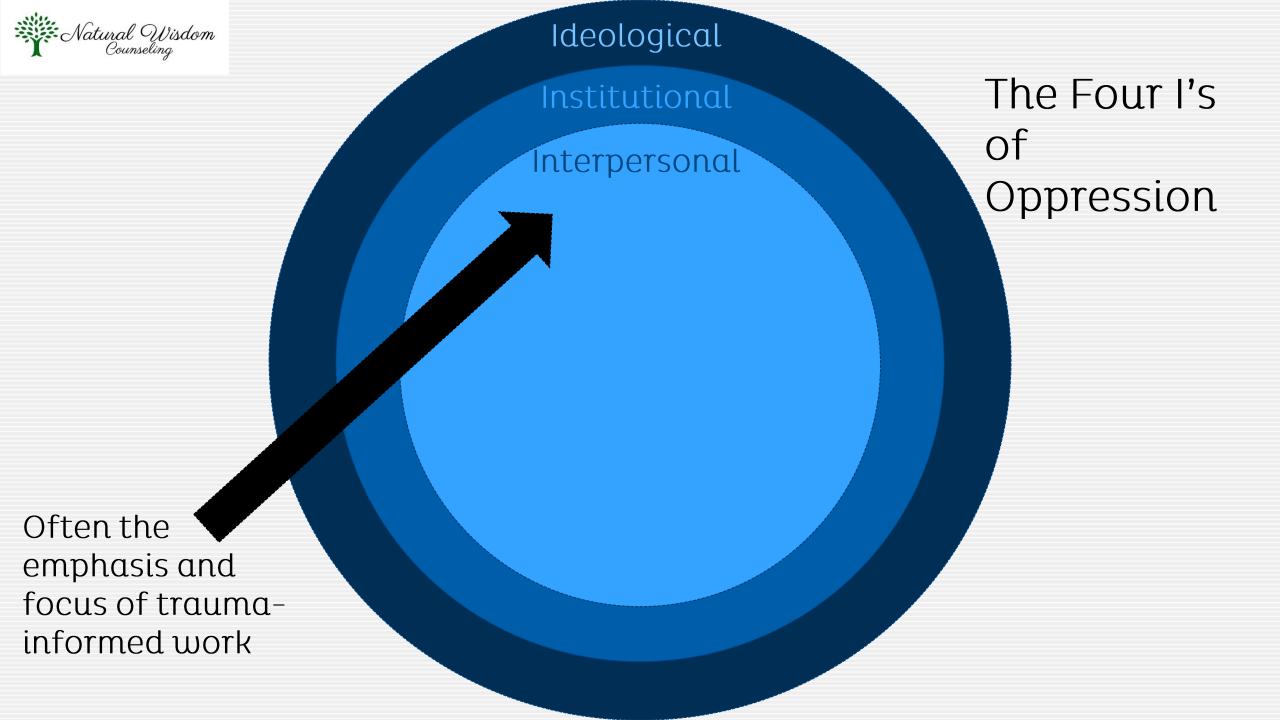
### Ideological

Institutional

Interpersonal

Ways that we treat
each other based on
the patterns of values
and judgements we
learned from the
ideology and
institutions

The Four I's of Oppression





The Four I's of Oppression



Combined,

"horizontal

trauma and

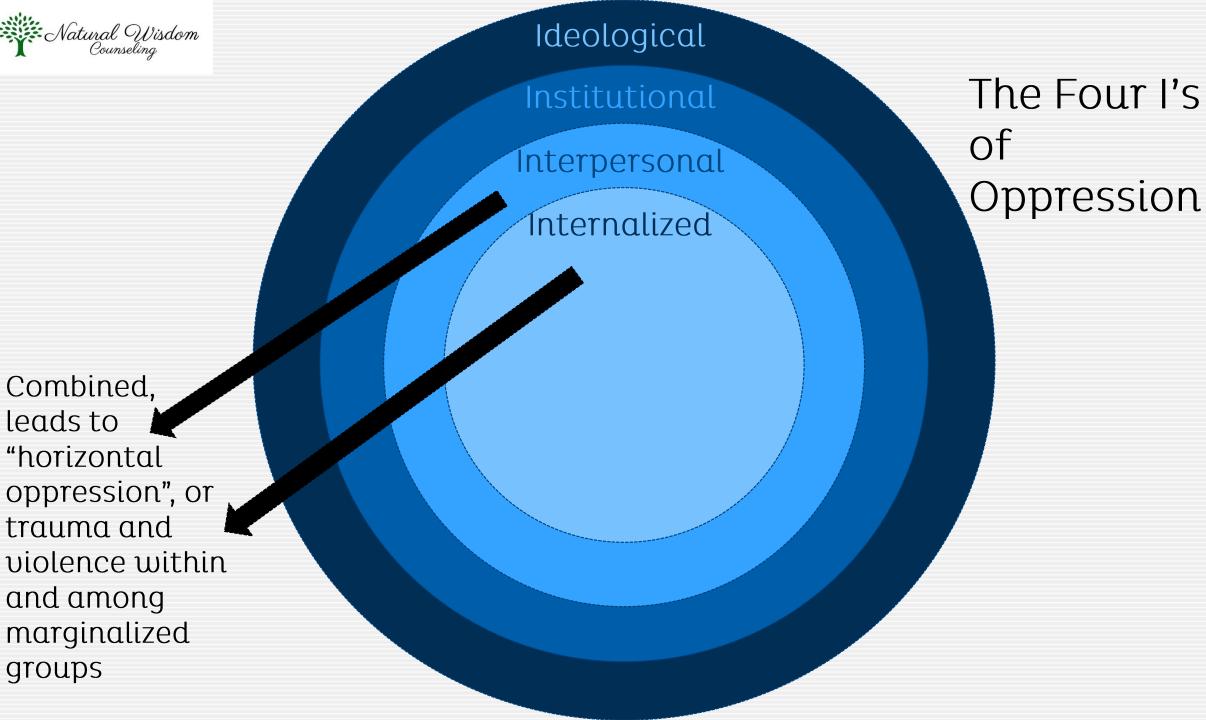
and among

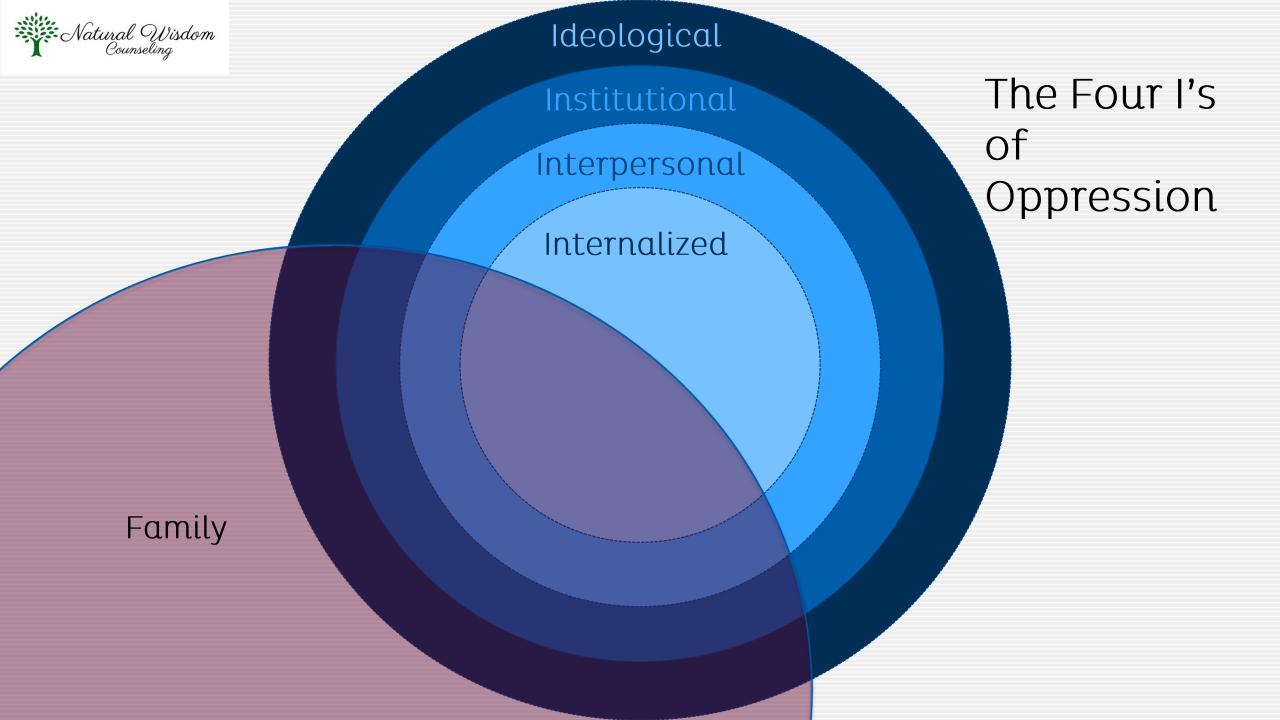
groups

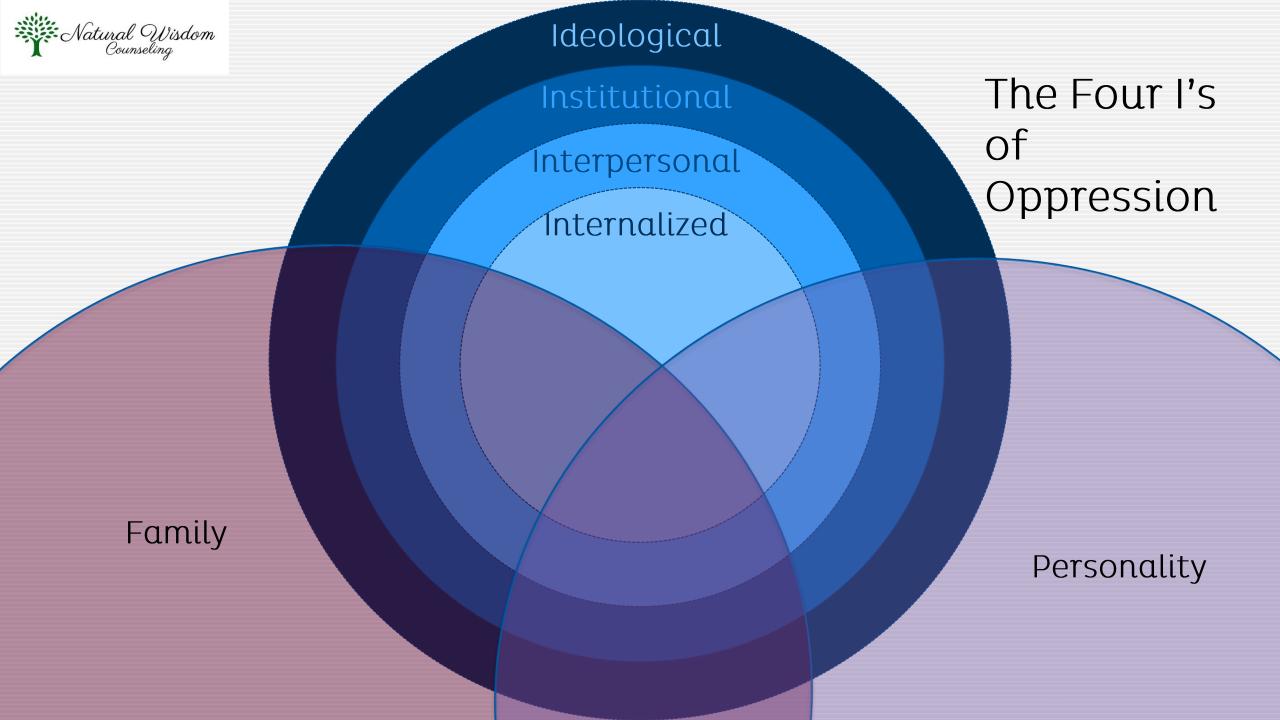
marginalized

oppression", or

leads to







### Trauma Defined

- Toxic stress
- Many definitions
- Is subjective



### The Three E's of Trauma



#### Event

Events / circumstances cause trauma.



### **Experience**

An individual's experience of the event determines whether it is traumatic



#### **Effects**

Effects of trauma include adverse physical, social, emotional, or spiritual consequences.

### Trauma's Impacts

- Disrupts the nervous system
- Dis-integrates sense of safety, belonging, dignity, purpose, and/or understanding of the world
- Peruasive and prevalent
- Interrupts relationships
- Growth and learning



## Types of Trauma

- Interpersonal Trauma
- Historical Trauma
- Intergenerational Trauma
- Environmental & Disaster Trauma
- Developmental, Attachment, & Early Childhood Trauma
- Institutional & Systemic Trauma
- Complex Trauma
- Chronic Trauma
- Medical Trauma
- Refugee Trauma
- Traumatic Grief & Loss
- Social & Societal Trauma
- Immigration Trauma
- Birth Trauma

- Vicarious Trauma
- Secondary Trauma

- Domestic Violence
- Community Violence
- War, Terrorism, & Political Violence
- Abrupt, Uncontrollable Change
- Maltreatment & Abuse
- Human Trafficking
- Torture
- Neglect
- Bullying
- Death and Loss

## Types of Pain

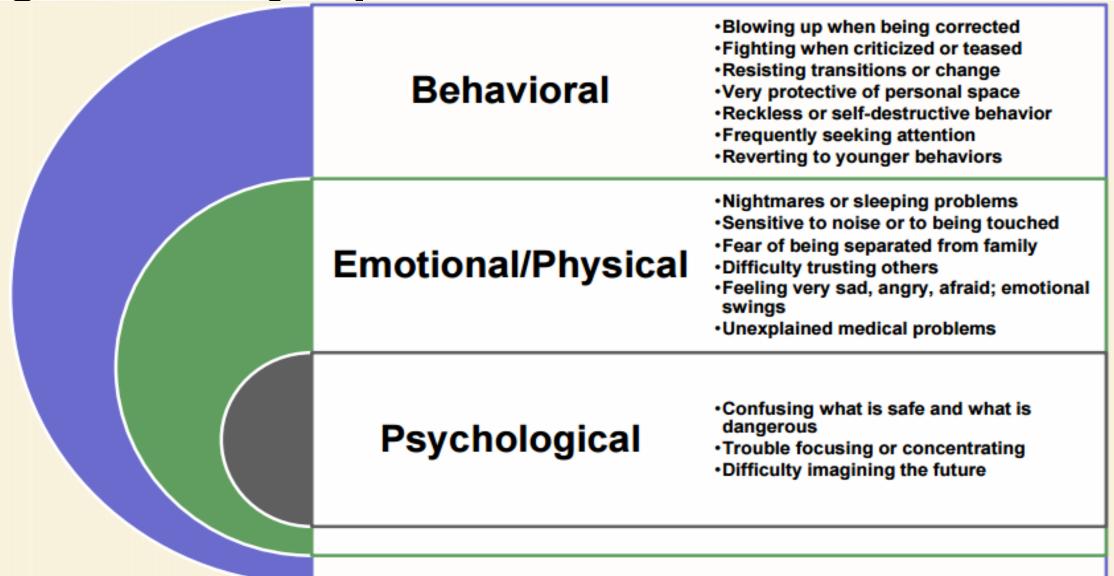
#### Clean Pain

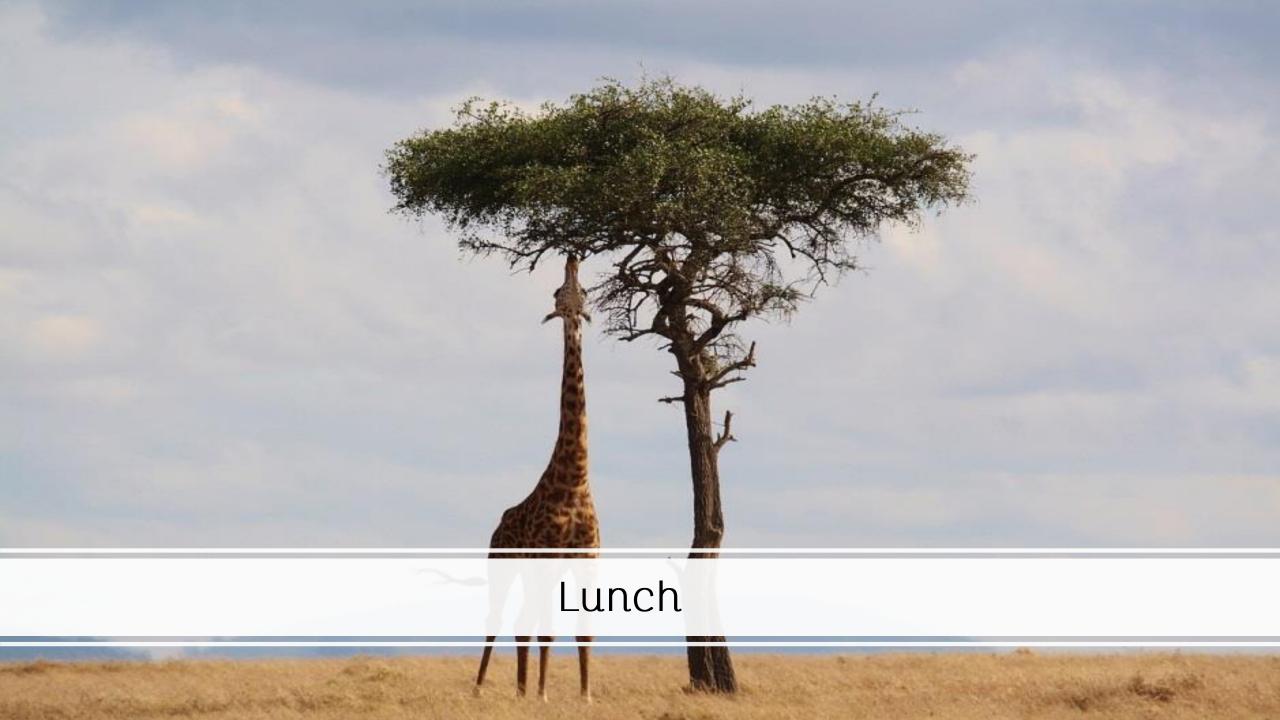
- Can build and mend your capacity for growth
- "It's the pain you experience when you know, exactly, what you need to say or do; when you really, really don't want to say or do it; and when you do it anyway. It's also the pain you experience when you have no idea what to do; when you're scared or worried about what might happen and when you step forward into the unknown anyway, with honesty and vulnerability."

### Dirty Pain

- The pain of avoidance, blame, and denial
- "When people respond from their most wounded parts, become cruel or violent or physically or emotionally run away. They also create more of it for themselves and others"

# Signs and Symptoms





Movement Break



### Impact of Stress/Trauma

Measuring Stress/Trauma

- Physical
- Emotional
- Cognitive
- Spiritual
- Relational

#### ACE Score Prevalence for CDC-Kaiser ACE Study Participants by Sex, Waves 1 and 2.

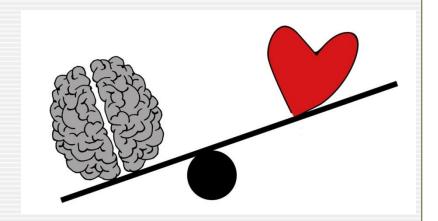
Number of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE Score)	Women Percent(N = 9,367)	Men Percent (N = 7,970)	Total Percent (N = 17,337)
0	34.5%	38.0%	36.1%
1	24.5%	27.9%	26.0%
2	15.5%	16.4%	15.9%
3	10.3%	8.5%	9.5%
4 or more	15.2%	9.2%	12.5%

- Physiology
  - Skin Conductivity
  - o Heart Rate
  - o Blood Pressure
  - o Cortisol Levels
- Life Stress Test
- Adverse Childhood Experiences

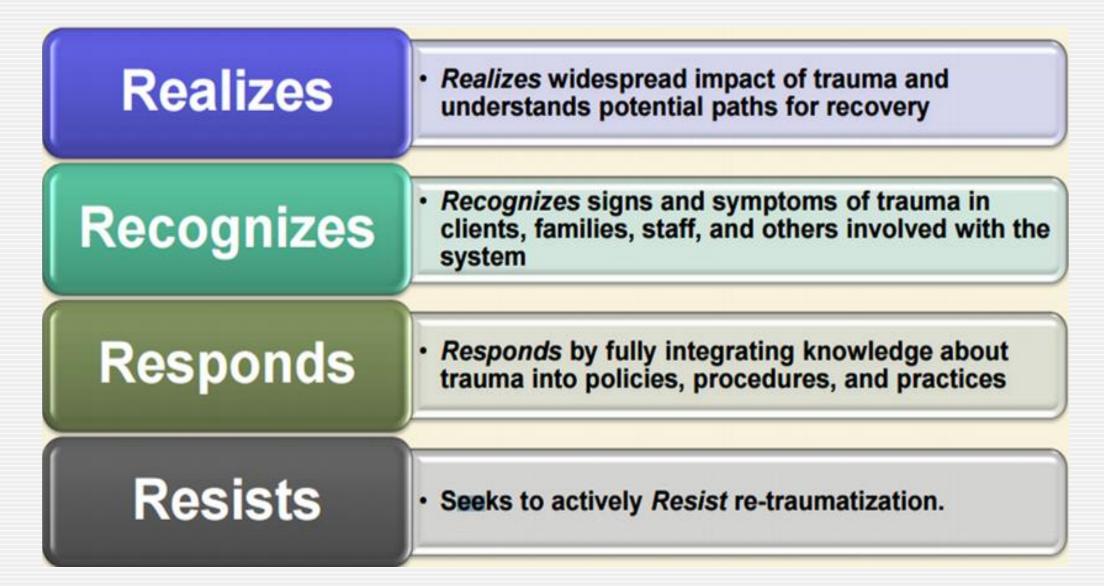
## Trauma-Informed Care: Recurring Themes

- Basic Understanding of Trauma
- Creating an environment of physical and emotional safety for the survivors and providers
- Adopting a strengths-based approach to services

Is this enough? What might still be missing?



### The Four R's of a Trauma-Informed Environment





### Trauma-Informed Care



"Learning to be with suffering as an experience is part and parcel of what it means to live, and it radically alters our relationship to all of life and to the suffering of others. If you are invested in alleviating suffering, whether as an activist or change-maker or someone who's committed to life because you hear the cries of the world, it's important to understand that you can't even recognize the suffering of others without fully acknowledging the despair of your own suffering. It turns out that far from dragging you down, one of the most liberating things you can do is to come to terms with the fact that some form of your suffering will always be there. To really be present with that unhooks us from the constant anxiety of trying to make it go away. Paradoxically, once we release the proposition that we are going to get rid of the suffering, then the potential to alleviate the suffering becomes possible." --Rev. Angel Kyodo Williams

- "Neurons which fire together, wire together."
- -Donald Hebb, Canadian physician-psychologist
- Gray Matter
- Corpus Collosum
- Amygdala
- Hippocampus
- Prefrontal Cortex
  - Medial and Orbital Portions

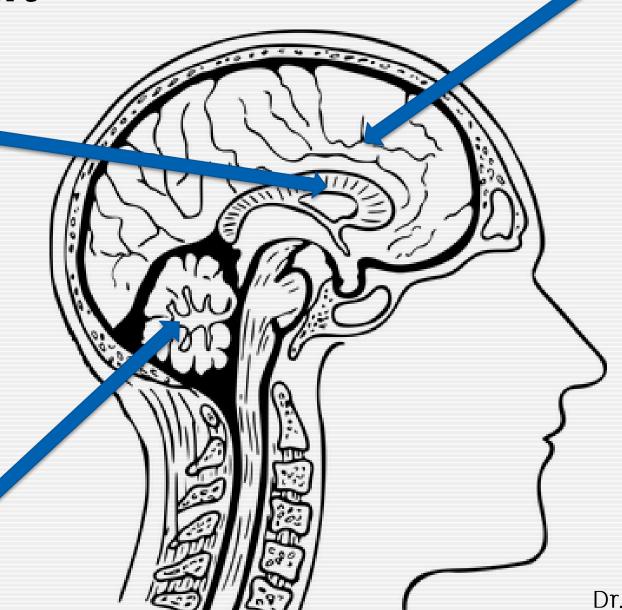


# Triune Brain

Mid Brain (Emotional Brain)

> Hind Brain (Survival Brain)

Frontal Cortex (Thinking Brain)



Dr. Paul D. MacLean, 1990

#### The Soul Nerve

• Soul Nerve (aka vagus nerve) connects your entire nervous system that reaches your throat, lungs, heart, stomach, liver,

spleen, pancreas, kidney and gut

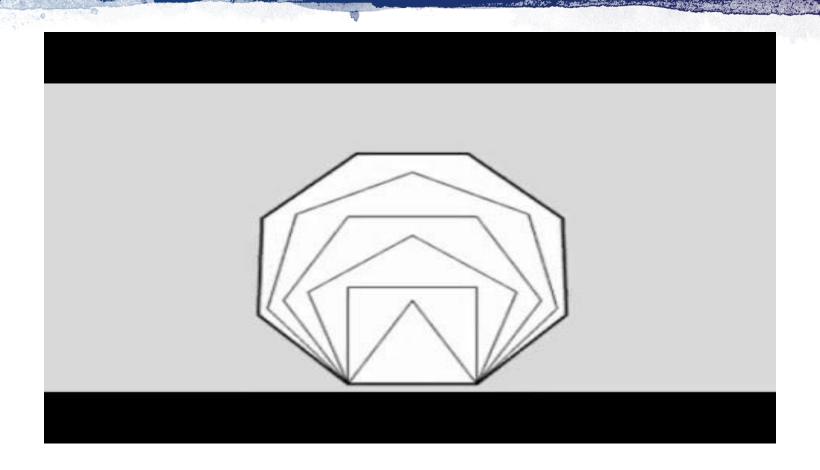
- This is where you experience a felt sense of love, compassion, fear, sadness, loneliness, hope and many others
- The main purpose of your soul nerve is to receive fight, flee, or freeze and safety messages
- Through soul nerve training (body practices) you can learn to work with your soul nerve and soothe yourself during difficult or high stress situations

### **Body Practices**

Rubbing Your Belly

20s





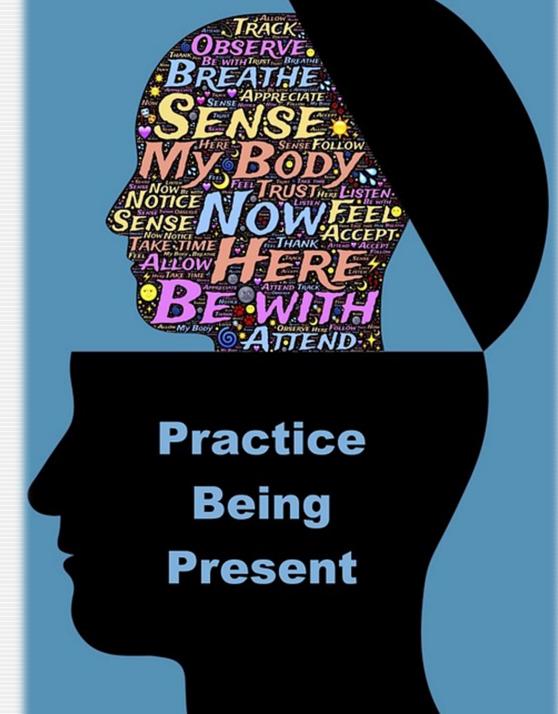


# Questions & Comments

So now what?

## Presence

- Not always comfortable
- Not always convenient
- Not always pleasurable



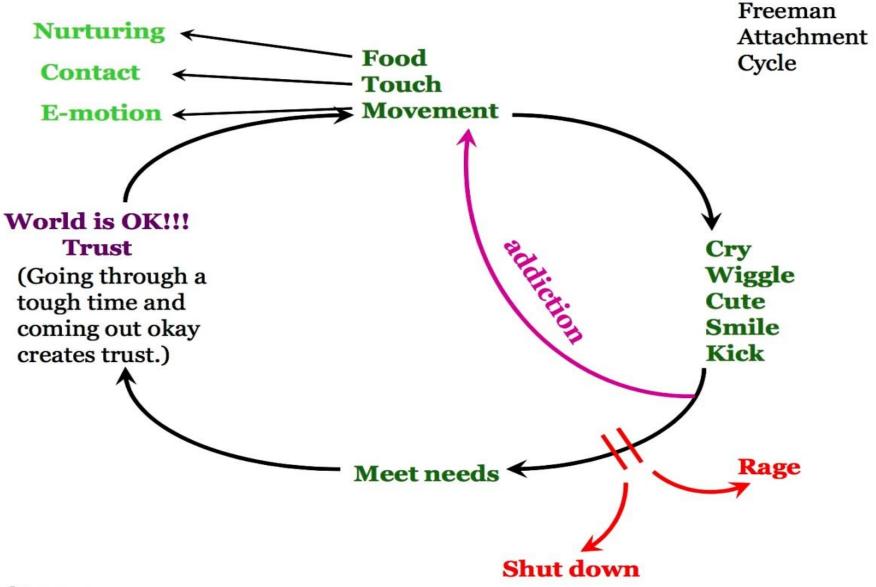
#### Window of Tolerance





# Working with Extreme States AKA Getting Un-Stuck



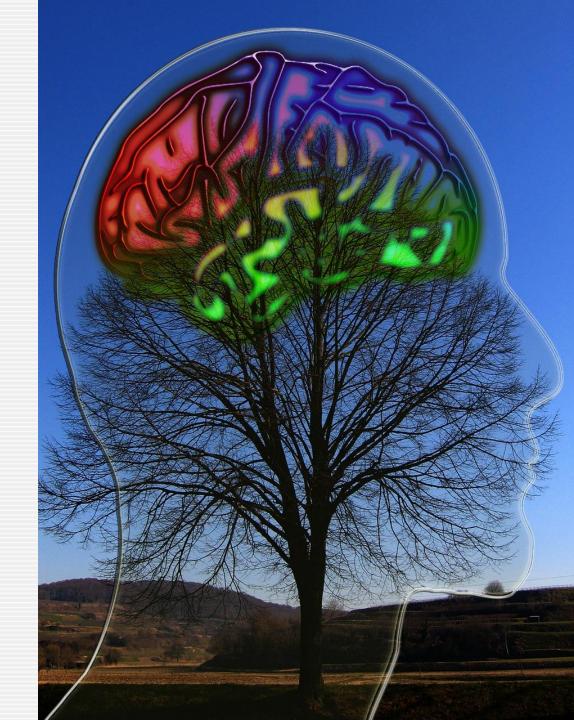


#### **Parallel Process**

We can learn to hold ourselves... So we can hold the caregiver... So the caregiver can hold/contain their self... And then hold the child(ren)... And the child(ren) can internalize the holding and balance selfregulation (learn that they are okay and the world is okay).

# Four Threats to the Nervous System

- Physical & Emotional Danger
- The Unknown
- Incongruence
- Shoulds (or Judgments)



# Resilience: Protective Factors

- Caregiver Resilience
- Social Connections
- Concrete Supports
- Knowledge of Parenting and Child Development
- Social and Emotional Competence



### Cultivating Resilience

"The marvel of a basket is in its transformation, its journey from wholeness as a living plant to fragmented strands and back to wholeness again as a basket. A basket knows the dual powers of destruction and creation that shape the world. Strands once separated are rewoven into a new whole. The journey of a basket is also the journey of a people."

-Robin Wall Kimmerer, *Braiding Sweetgrass*, p. 256



### Regulating Intervention: Play

- Games
- Dance/Movement
- Art
  - o Music
  - o Paint/Draw/Sculpt
  - o Poetry







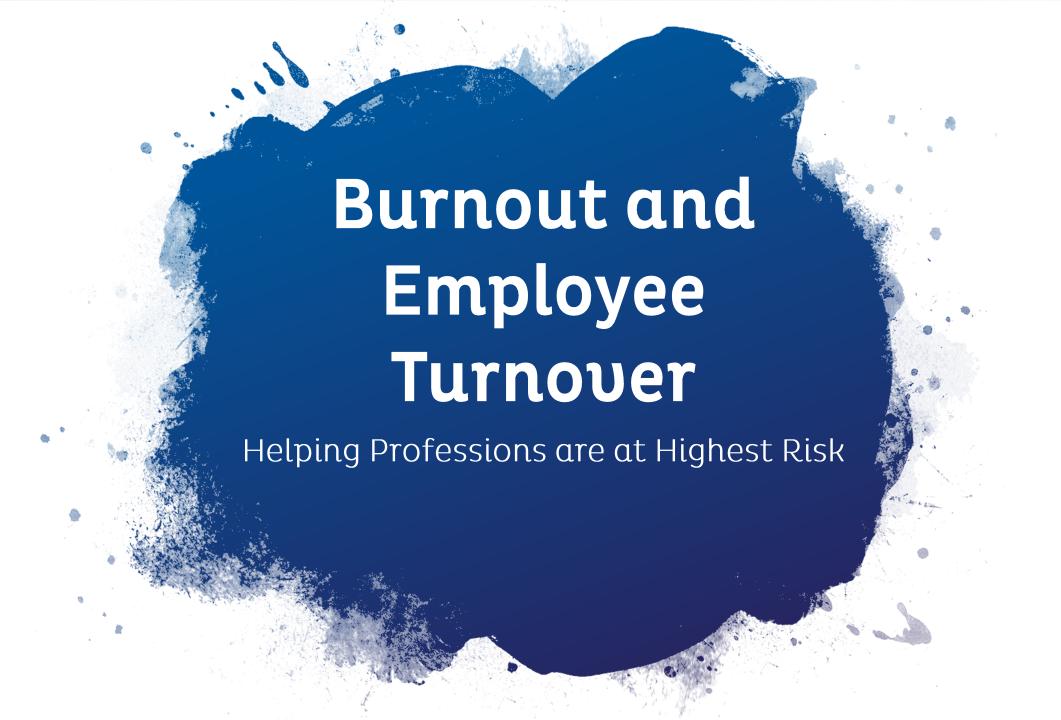
### Regulating Interventions: Mindfulness

- Body Scan
- Breath Work
- Awareness Exercises





# Integrating Knowledge & Tools: Organizational Change



# 16 Warning Signs

- Feeling helpless and hopeless
- A sense that one can never do enough
- Hyperuigilance
- Diminished creativity
- Inability to embrace complexity
- Minimizing
- Chronic exhaustion/physical ailments
- Inability to listen/deliberate avoidance



### 16 Warning Signs Continued...

- Dissociative moments
- Sense of Persecution
- Guilt
- Fear
- Anger and Cynicism
- Inability to empathize/numbing
- Additions
- Grandiosity: An inflated sense of importance related to one's work



#### Now what?



 If you're experiencing signs of burnout, it's time to practice care for your body and mind that we similarly encourage for our clients...

- × Play
- × Nature Based
- ▼ Mindfulness
- ▼ Seeking professional help
- **x** Taking time off



"Compassion is not a relationship between the healer and the wounded. It's a relationship between equals.

Only when we know our own darkness well can we be present with the darkness of others."

-Pema Chödron

# Thank you!

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