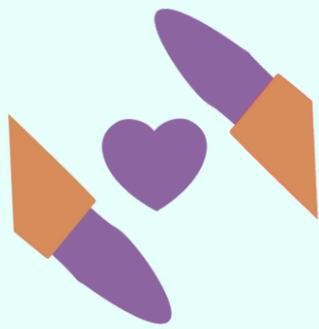




6

principles of TRAUMA- INFORMED ADVOCACY



SAFETY

Throughout the organization everyone feels physically and psychologically safe.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

- Understand safety as defined by survivors
- Recognize and know how to respond to signs of trauma responses
- Meet in physically secure and accessible locations



CULTURAL HUMILITY & RESPONSIVENESS

The impacts of biases, stereotypes, systemic oppression, and historical trauma are recognized and addressed.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

- Respect names and pronouns
- Recognize the impact of historical trauma
- Practice cultural humility and address own biases and stereotypes
- Make appropriate referrals to culturally specific organizations
- Actively engage in cultural and community honoring practices

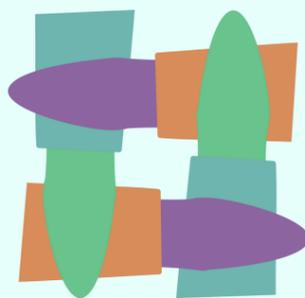


TRUSTWORTHINESS & TRANSPARENCY

Operations and decisions are made with transparency and the goal of building and maintaining trust.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

- Maintain privacy and confidentiality
- Explain the role of an advocate
- Clarify and maintain appropriate boundaries
- Explain the reasons behind policies, practices, and procedures



COLLABORATION

Power differences between and among staff and clients are minimized by using a partnership approach to services.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

- Acknowledge that survivors are the experts in their own lives
- Allow survivors to have an active, primary role in the process they are involved in
- Accompany survivors as they navigate other systems



EMPOWERMENT, VOICE & CHOICE

Individual's strengths and autonomy are recognized and built on, and programs are survivor-centered and survivor-defined.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

- Help survivors access needed knowledge, skills, supports, and resources
- Allow survivors to provide feedback on the services they receive and set the agenda
- Highlight strengths, validate and normalize trauma responses
- Offer choices in meeting environment (e.g. door locked/unlocked, where to sit)



PEER SUPPORT

Survivors have access to social support, supportive communities, and others with shared life experiences.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

- Offer survivors opportunities to be with other survivors and offer mutual support
- Hire diverse staff who share survivors' cultures and experiences