

#### A4 Brief Enhancement Parenting Strategies: Early Intervention in Parental Stress

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#### Brief Parent Enhancement Strategies Early Intervention in Parental Stress Dan Thorne

## Objectives for Today's Presentation Define the three core principles of the Brief Parent Enhancement Strategies. Develop skills to engage parents in skill building. How practice complements Wraparound practices.

# Background of Developer - 40 years in mental health, including over 30 years as Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist - 25 years as director of outpatient and inpatient mental health and substance abuse programs - Parent of three adoptive children with mental health problems - Challenged dog owner

### ProblemParents have problems with children-normal Parents with "special needs children" have more stressors and not necessarily the skills. Parents with lower socioeconomic means have less resources for their children.

## Theory - Expectations-If parent can change views of self and child, stress levels go down - Empowerment of parent-stop victimization and martyrdom - Behavior and intention- cause and effect of actions



#### **BPES Model**

- BPES Curriculum
   12 Lesson Modules Organized by Three Core Principles

  - Can be done in field or clinic
     Each lasts until all information in lesson is covered or all lesson materials are completed
  - Lesson Content
    - Recap of last week (use of homework, problems, etc)
       Discussion of lesson information

    - Interactive or role-play format on lesson topics
    - Homework (done with parent or assigned)



#### Criteria for BPES Parent

- · Poor view of self as parent
- · Stress
- · Poorview of child
- · Behavior problems
- · Unrealistic expectations of child



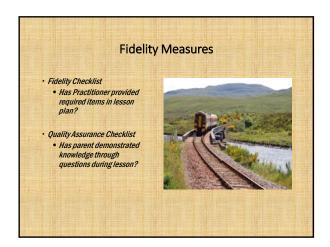
#### **Evaluation and Engagement**

- · Learn about parent
- Evaluation questions about parenting: past (family of origin), present (current behaviors), and future (goals)
- · Administer, score, and interpret evaluation measures
- · Agreement between practitioner and parent



#### Parenting Stress Index — Short Form (PSI-SF) • 36-item measure of parent-child characteristics and situational factors that contribute to overall parental stress • 20 minutes to administer, score and present • English and Spanish • Total Stress Score • Three Scale Scores: • Parental Distress-self as parent • Parent-Child Dysfunctional Interaction-difficulties with child • Difficult Child-child's behavior

### Solitem measure of intensity of child behavior and parent's perception 2.0 minutes to administer, score and present English and Spanish Two Scale Scores: Intensity-severity of child problems Problems



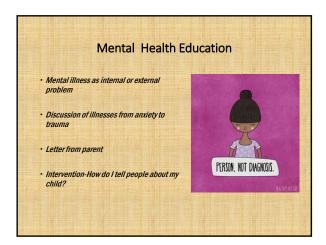
#### Stress • Life Events affect stress • Leam stress triggers • Relaxation exercises • Stress Plan- what are triggers, what happens, how do you respond, how to respond different or remove self from trigger • Exercise- handling noisy child at store

## Grief and Loss - How children's Illness is loss from norm - Stages of loss - Intervention-What I want vs. What my child is vs. What can I live with - The Grief and Loss Road



### Supports - Assertive Bill of Rights- I can ask for help - Social Capital - Intervention-Circle of supports - Who can be helpful?

## Child Development - Use CDC development information - Intervention - Developmental markers - Chronological age - Biological age - Psychological age - Social age - Social age



#### Parent Advocacy Tum assertion into advocacy for child and self IEP's, SST's, and school system What to accept and what to push back from physicians, schools, child welfare, etc. Exercise-role play with school psychologist

#### Promoting Positive Behaviors Consequences work for children and parents Praise increases behavior Worksheets on problems and solutions Ways to praise child Tile behavior with consequence or reward Exercise-child late to school



#### Solving Problems Same as Assertive Communication lesson, but targeted at child's communication Children push more buttons, learn how to cope with them How communication styles with children differ from parents Intervention-What child says, response, hot button, optional response

## Final Session - Review successes, accomplishments - Referrals to community - Take post PSI and ECBI, compare scores - Graduation certificate



#### **Connecting Wraparound to BPES**

- · Goals of Wraparound
- · Permanency
- · Safety
- · Well-Being
- · BPES focus on the parent
- · Stabilize home life through self-care
- · Improve interactions with child
- Awareness of child development and mental health education
- Help parents get back in control and participate



#### **Current Projects**

- 1st Research paper publication in progress
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Research study- comparative Triple P vs. BPES
- CIBHS representation for Community Development Team
- BPES Training to be determined in Northern and Southern California



**Certification Process** 

- · One Day Practitioner Training
- Twelve Conference Calls for Supervision
- Half Day Booster Training at 6 month mark
- · Data Collection sent to Harbor View



## What Makes BPES Unique? • Grassroots based-developed in community mental health setting, not in university • Conducted in English and Spanish • Practitioners-paraprofessionals, bachelor's, and master's level

