



#### Land and Labor Acknowledgments

- <u>https://native-land.ca/</u>
- <u>https://www.solid-ground.org/our-impact/labor-acknowledgement/</u>

#### **Medical Respite Care**

- Standards for Medical Respite Care
- <u>Guiding Principles for Medical Respite Care</u>
- Models of Medical Respite Care
- The Framework for Medical Respite Care
- <u>www.nimrc.org</u> all resources

#### Trauma Informed Design

- Shopworks collection of TID resources: <u>https://shopworksarc.com/tid/</u>
- Preservation of Affordable HOusing (POAH) Trauma-Informed Toolkit: <u>https://traumainformedhousing.poah.org/</u>

#### **Behavioral Health and Design**

- www.cfm.va.gov/til/dGuide/dgMH.pdf
- Stantec Mental+Behavioral Health Practice
  <u>https://www.stantec.com/en/markets/health/behavioral-health</u>
- Stephen Parker https://www.stantec.com/en/people/p/parker-stephen
- Center for Health Design <u>https://www.healthdesign.org/experts/stephen-parker-aia-noma-ncarb-leed-ap</u>
- BH Trends <u>https://bhbusiness.com/2023/08/25/the-4-trends-driving-behavioral-health-facility-design/</u>
- Emergency Psychiatry <u>https://2023nubeconference.sched.com/event/1VJUn/poster-session-crisis-care-design-prototyping-community-crisis</u>
- EmPATH units <u>https://bhbusiness.com/2023/09/05/empath-units-seek-to-shatter-the-behavioral-health-emergency-department-bottleneck/</u>





- Design in Mental Health Network <u>https://dimhn.org/board-and-associates/</u>
- DrawnOut! Mental Health Sketch -<u>https://www.designinmentalhealth.com/seminar/drawnout-mental-health-sketch-workshop/</u>
- Sketching the visitor experience -<u>https://issuu.com/youngarchitectsforum/docs/connection\_2023\_q2\_v2/s/28163288</u>
- Community Mental Health <u>https://www.di.net/di-media/articles/2023-</u> <u>quarterly/q2/elevating-community-mental-health/</u>
- Crisis Care Centers <u>https://www.stantec.com/en/ideas/content/blog/2023/how-design-can-support-mental-health-through-crisis-stabilization-centers</u>
- Modular Crisis Care <u>https://www.stantec.com/en/ideas/content/blog/2023/modular-</u> construction-solution-to-mental-health-care-crisis
- Care Culture <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vyWrv0rKXPg</u>
- Youth Mental Health <u>https://bhbusiness.com/2024/02/08/best-behavioral-health-design-of-2023-teens-take-an-active-role-in-shaping-their-care/</u>
- <u>https://urbanland.uli.org/planning-design/returning-home-advancements-in-mental-health-design-for-u-s-veteran-facilities</u>
- <u>https://www.stantec.com/en/ideas/careers/applying-our-practice-purpose-for-homeless-youth</u>

#### **Disability Justice and Inclusive Language**

- Writing Respectfully: Person-first and Identify-first language:
- The NIH Style Guide
- Disability Language Style Guide
- Words Matter: Preferred Language for Talking About Addiction
- How Health Communicators and Journalists Can Help Replace Stigma with Science
- <u>National Association of the Deaf Community and Culture(link is external)</u>
- <u>Autistic Self Advocacy Network</u>
- World Health Organization Disability
- UN Convention on Human Rights for Persons with Disabilities





#### **Disability Rights and Racial Justice**

- <u>A Shared Struggle for Equality: Disability Rights and Racial Justice</u>
- <u>17 Black Disability Advocates and Activists</u>

#### Accessibility Resources

- ADA Technical Assistance Center: <u>https://adata.org/</u>
- Tax Incentives for Small Business: <u>https://gpadacenter.org/audiences/small-business/tax-incentives-for-small-businesses/</u>
- NACCHO: Disability and homelessness
- Creating Accessible Printed Resources: <u>https://nhchc.org/resource/creating-accessible-printed-resources-tips-and-tools/</u>

#### NHCHC/NIMRC Resources related to Design and Environment

Falls Prevention and Screening:

- Falls Screening in Medical Respite Care
- Falls Screening in Medical Respite Care Fillable PDF Form

#### Webinars:

- Addressing Cognition + Dementia in Medical Respite
- Addressing ADL in Medical Respite
- <u>Addressing Incontinence in Medical Respite</u>
- Trauma-Informed Environment In Medical Respite

#### Clinical Guidelines:

- <u>Clinical Guidelines for Medical Respite Care: Activities of Daily Living</u>
- <u>Clinical Guidelines in Medical Respite Care: Incontinence</u>
- <u>Clinical Guidelines for MRC: Cognition</u>
- <u>Clinical Guidelines for MRC: Dementia</u>





#### **Case Examples & Links Shared During the Event**

- Lark Inn Youth Shelter in SF has done alot with a limited budget: <u>https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/lark-inn-empowering-community-through-design-chow-ncidq-iida</u>
- Furniture selection can promote voice and choice. The layout of a counseling room or consult office can be set up to avoid imposing authority, barriers between provider and client. This renovated candy factory in Toronto treats youth mental health and was very cost conscious by reusing the space in a different way: <u>https://bhbusiness.com/2024/02/08/best-behavioral-health-design-of-2023-teens-takean-active-role-in-shaping-their-care/</u>
- There is a body of evidence based design research that informs healthcare planning and design. A more limited body of research exists for specific mental and behavioral environments. The work of Roger Ulrich and Mardelle Shepley come to mind. The Appendix of the VA's Inpatient Mental Health Design Guide has many research references: www.cfm.va.gov/til/dGuide/dgMH.pdf
- What are some TID recommendations for small meeting and office spaces that do not have windows?
  - Positive distraction is a concept often used in healthcare spaces. Sometimes that's as simple as art or mural. Full spectrum lighting can help replicate the natural daylight patterns. Providing a biophilic element (moss wall?) help as well too.
  - One of our most popular meeting rooms was done in supportive housing in conjunction with an org serving folks with brain injuries. They asked for a windowless, low-light room. It's got dark blue walls, soft furniture, and a dimmer switch. Is very calming and presented as a choice for staff or residents who want that at the moment.
  - Also if your meeting spaces are small and don't offer those security considerations like easy access to the door or 2 exits, I would think about an alternate, semi-private meeting space for when staff/residents don't feel safe going into a room with someone. Something like an intentional cluster of seating/tables in a community room or outdoor area.





### Creating Healing Spaces: Trauma Informed Design in Medical Respite Care

April 3rd, 2024



The National Institute for Medical Respite Care is a special program of the National Health Care for the Homeless Council.

### CE Information



**AIA** – Sign in virtually or email <u>Csynovec@nhchc.org</u> with your Name and AIA # by **Wednesday April 10<sup>th</sup>,2024** 

### AOTA – go to

https://myaota.aota.org/InstitutionUserRegistration.aspx?id=1011809394

- You will need to log-in to your account
- Complete the exam
- Complete the exam by May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024





### ACCME, ANCC, ASWB and NY SW -

- Go to nhchc.cmecertificateonline.com
- Click on the Creating Healing Spaces: Incorporating Trauma Informed Design into Medical Respite Care Programs link.
- Evaluate the meeting.
- Print, download, or save your certificate for your records.
- If you lose your certificate, or need help, go to help.cmecertificateonline.com

National Health Care for the Homeless Council Creating Healing Spaces: Incorporating Trauma Informed Design into Medical Respite Care Programs April 3, 2024 Online

### Acknowledgement of Financial Commercial Support

No financial commercial support was received for this educational activity.

#### Acknowledgement of In-Kind Commercial Support

No in-kind commercial support was received for this educational activity.

### **Satisfactory Completion**

Learners must complete an evaluation form to receive a certificate of completion. Your chosen sessions must be attended in their entirety. Partial credit of individual sessions is not available. If you are seeking continuing education credit for a specialty not listed below, it is your responsibility to contact your licensing/certification board to determine course eligibility for your licensing/certification requirement.

#### **Joint Accreditation Statement**



In support of improving patient care, this activity has been planned and implemented by Amedco LLC and National Health Care for the Homeless Council. Amedco LLC is jointly accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE), and the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), to provide continuing education for the healthcare team.

Amedco Joint Accreditation Provider Number: 4008163

#### **Physicians**

#### **ACCME Credit Designation Statement**

Amedco LLC designates this live activity for a maximum of 3.75 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits<sup>TM</sup>* for physicians. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

#### Nurses

#### **ANCC Credit Designation Statement**

Amedco LLC designates this activity for a maximum of 3.75 ANCC contact hours.

### **Social Workers**



#### **ASWB Credit Designation Statement**

As a Jointly Accredited Organization, Amedco is approved to offer social work continuing education by the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB) Approved Continuing Education (ACE) program. Organizations, not individual courses, are approved under this program. State

and provincial regulatory boards have the final authority to determine whether an individual course may be accepted for continuing education credit. Amedco maintains responsibility for this course. ASWB Content Level: Intermediate. Social workers completing this course receive up to 3.75 continuing education credits.

The following state boards accept courses offering ASWB ACE credit for Social Workers: AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, HI, ID, IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, LA, ME, MD, MA, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NC, ND, NE, NH, NM, NV, OH, OK\*, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VT, VA, WA, WI, WV\*, WY

\*OK: Accepts ASWB ACE for live, in-person activities but not for ethics and/or online courses.

\*WV: Accepts ASWB ACE unless activity is held live in West Virginia.

The following state boards accept courses offering ASWB ACE credit for Counselors: AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DC, FL, GA, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, MA, MD, ME, MO, ND, NE, NM, NH, NV, OK\*, OR, PA, TN, TX, UT, VA, WI, WY

MI: No CE requirement

The following state boards accept courses offering ASWB ACE credit for MFTs: AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, FL, IA, ID, IN, KS, MD, ME, MO, NC, NE, NH, NM, NV, OK\*, OR, PA, RI, TN, TX, UT, VA, WI, WY

AL MFTs: Credits authorized by NBCC or any other state licensing agency will be accepted.

MA MFTs: Participants can self-submit courses not approved by the MAMFT board for review.

MI: No CE requirement.

The following state boards accept ASWB ACE credit for Addictions Professionals: AK, CA, CO, CT, GA, IA, IN, KS, LA, MO, MT, ND, NM, NV, OK, OR, SC, WA, WI, WV, WY

#### **New York Social Workers**

#### **NY-SW Credit Designation Statement**

Amedco SW CPE is recognized by the New York State Education Department's State Board for Social Work as an approved provider of continuing education for licensed social workers #0115. 3.75 credit hours.

#### **Objectives - After Attending This Program You Should Be Able To**

1. Identify three ways that the environment can influence healing or contribute to trauma experiences.

2. Describe at least four trauma-informed design strategies to integrate within their programs that increase accessibility for

people with lived experience of homelessness and behavioral health conditions.

3. Identify at least two trauma-informed design practices that they can incorporate into their programs.

#### **Disclosure of Conflict of Interest**

The following table of disclosure information is provided to learners and contains the relevant financial relationships that each individual in a position to control the content disclosed to Amedco. All of these relationships were treated as a conflict of interest, and have been resolved. (C7 SCS 6.1-6.2, 6.5)

All individuals in a position to control the content of CE are listed below.

Name	Commercial Interest:Relationship
Stephen Parker	NA
Laura Rossbert	NA
Shahad Sadeq	NA
Samuel Severns	NA
Caitlin Synovec	NA
Jennifer Wilson	NA
Brett Poe	NA
Ryan Dixon	NA

#### How to Get Your Certificate

- 1. Go to <u>nhchc.cmecertificateonline.com</u>
- 2. Click on the Creating Healing Spaces: Incorporating Trauma Informed Design into Medical Respite Care Programs link.
- 3. Evaluate the meeting.
- 4. Print, download, or save your certificate for your records.
- 5. If you lose your certificate, or need help, go to help.cmecertificateonline.com

### Land and Labor Acknowledgment



Our symposium today includes many presenters across several geographic locations.

Most of our communities reside on unceded ancestral lands or acquired by unhonored treaties. We acknowledge the people of these lands, past and present and honor with gratitude the land itself, and its people.

We also honor the brilliance and humanity of all immigrant labor, including voluntary, involuntary, trafficked, forced, and undocumented peoples, whose labor, remains hidden in the shadows but still contributes to the wellbeing of our collective community.

### What is the National Health for the Homeless Council?

NATIONAL HEALTH CARE for the HOMELESS COUNCIL The National Health Care for the Homeless Council is the premier national organization working at the nexus of homelessness and health care.

Grounded in human rights and social justice, the NHCHC mission is to build an equitable, high-quality health care system through training, research, and advocacy in the movement to end homelessness.

## What is the National Institute for Medical Respite Care?

NIMRC is a special program of the National Health Care for the Homeless Council whose primary focus is on expanding medical respite (or recuperative) care programs in the U.S.

NIMRC advances best practices, delivers expert consulting services, and disseminates state-of-field knowledge in medical respite care.

Launched on July 15, 2020 to respond to and address the growth and expansion of medical respite care.

### **NIMRC Resources**

Resources to support development and implementation of medical respite programs:



### **Agenda for Today**

<b>1:00 - 1:10</b> - Welcome & Land & Labor Acknowledgement	<b>3:20 – 3:35</b> - Break
<b>1:10 - 1:30</b> - Introduction and evolution of medical respite care	<b>3:35 – 4:00</b> - 4) Accessibility in Programs
1:30 - 2:00 - 1) Diversity and Cultural Considerations	<b>4:00 – 4:30</b> - Program Example: RecoveryWorks
2:00 - 2:30 - 2) Trauma Informed Design Principles	4:30 - 4:50 - Looking to the Future
<b>2:30 - 3:00</b> - 3) Behavioral Health	<b>4:50</b> - Wrap-up, poll, and resources

3:00 - 3:20 - Q&A Panel with speakers

### Learning Objectives

At the<br/>conclusion<br/>of this<br/>symposium,<br/>participants<br/>will:Be able to<br/>healing or<br/>Be able to<br/>integrate<br/>people wi

Be able to identify three ways that the environment can influence healing or contribute to trauma experiences.

Be able to describe at least 4 trauma-informed design strategies to integrate within their programs that increase accessibility for people with lived experience of homelessness and behavioral health conditions.

Be able to at least 2 trauma-informed design practices that they can incorporate into their programs.

### Mentimeter

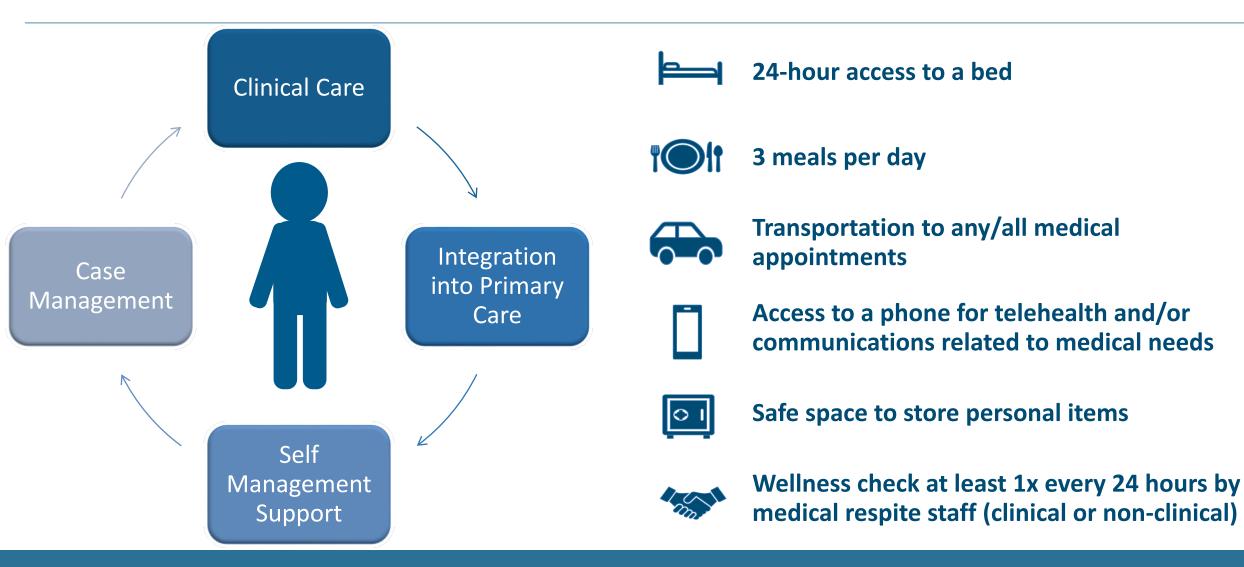
Medical Respite Care and Trauma-Informed Spaces

### Medical Respite Care: Definition

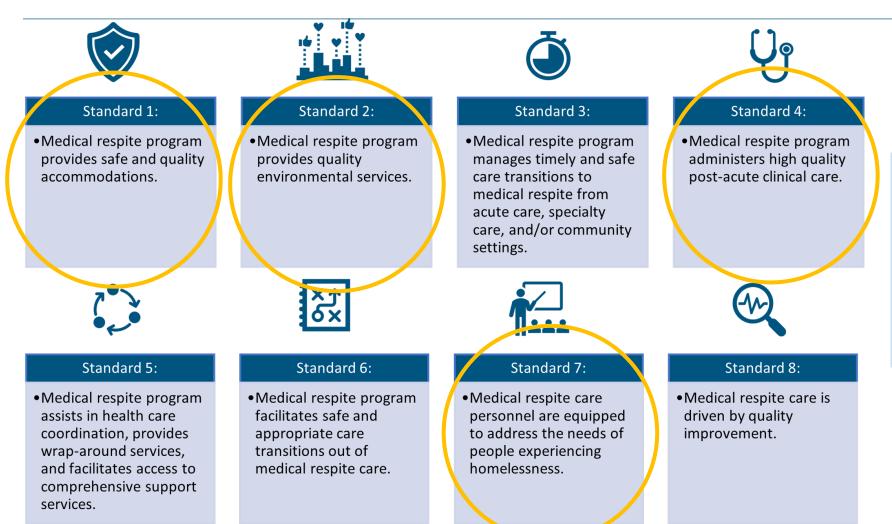
Post-acute care for people experiencing homelessness who are too ill or frail to recover from an illness or injury on the street or in shelter, but who do not require hospital level care.

Short-term residential care that allows people an opportunity to **rest, recovery, and heal** in a safe environment while also accessing clinical care and support services.

### **Medical Respite Core Components**

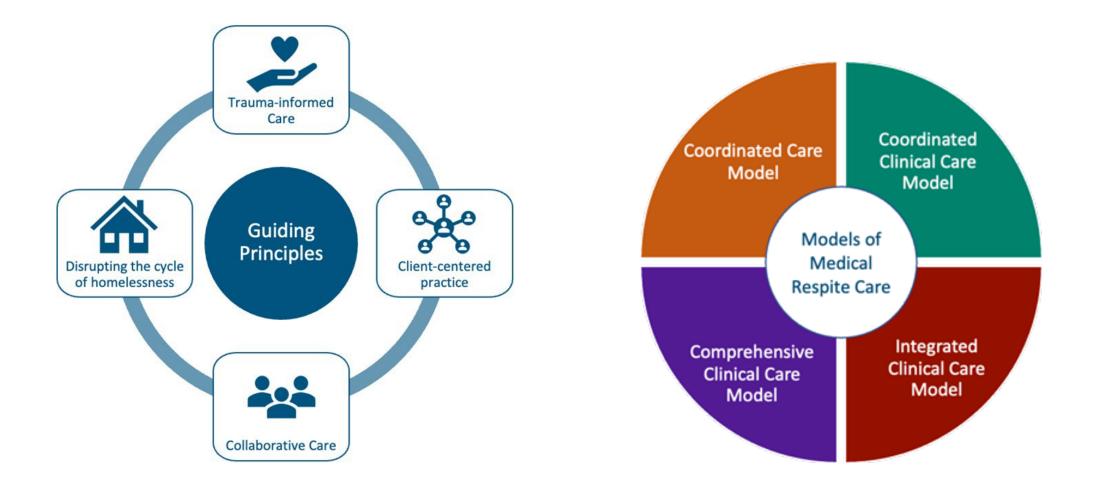


### **Standards for Medical Respite Care Programs**



Framework to support medical respite programs' ability to operate safely, effectively, and seamlessly with local health systems, and to promote program development and growth.

### **Guiding Principles and Models of Care**



### **Current Medical Respite Programs**

### Location of Medical Respite Programs



145 Total Medical Respite ProgramsAcross 40 States & Territories42 programs are in California

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... and growing!
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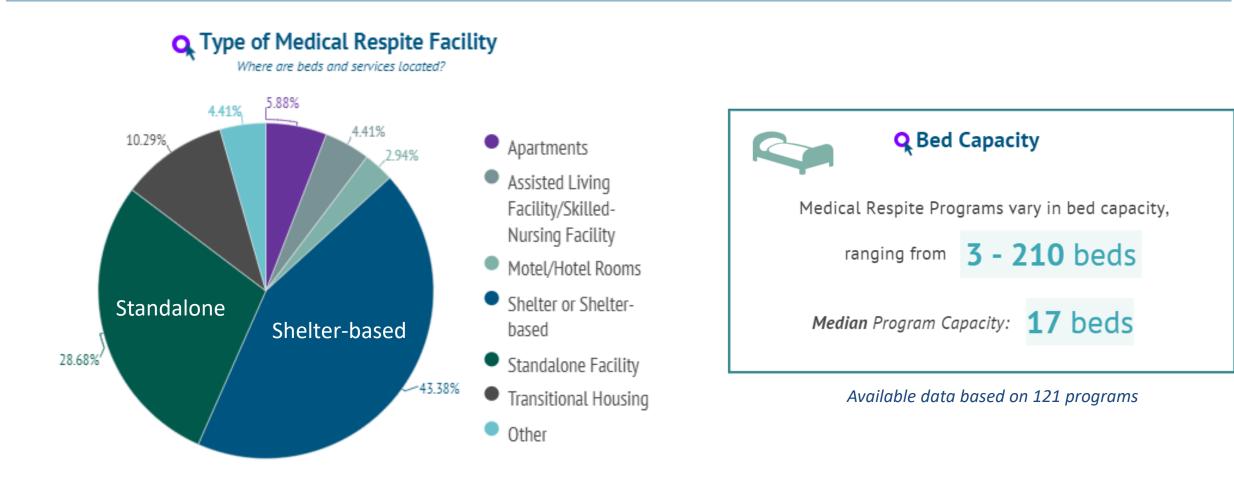
### Programs vary by . . .



### Length of stay

## Organizational structure

## What do we know about medical respite physical spaces?



Available data based on 133 programs

Source: State of Medical Respite Care

# Why does the environment matter?







Image Sources: <u>Re-Thinking the Future;</u> David Crane, Los Angeles Daily News/SCNG





## What do we mean when we talk about environment?

**Environmental Factors:** 

- Aspects of the physical, social, and attitudinal surroundings in which people live and conduct their lives.
- Influence functioning and disability and have positive aspects (facilitators) or negative aspects (barriers or hindrances).



AOTA, 2020; WHO, 2008

### Why does the environment matter?

We want to create a safe and comfortable environment

How the space is set-up facilitates dignity

Goal of respite is healing – how do we make our environment a place where someone wants to be and to rest?

A trauma-informed environment is one that is welcoming, and tells those walking through the door "You Belong"

### **Trauma-Informed Care & Medical Respite**

High prevalence of trauma among population:

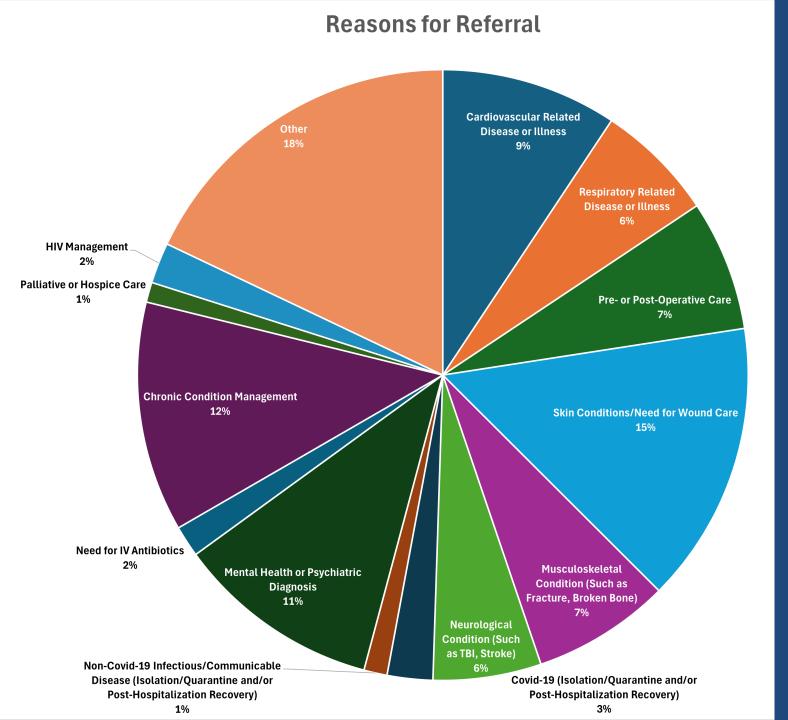
- Preceding homelessness
- As a result of homelessness

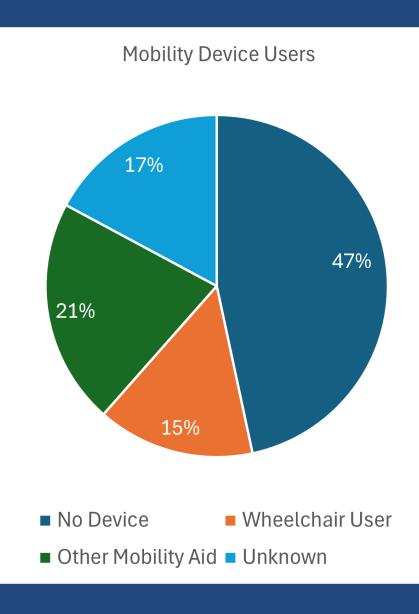
Acute medical issues as a source of trauma:

- What caused hospitalization
- Experience of being hospitalized
- Grappling with changes as a result of medical condition

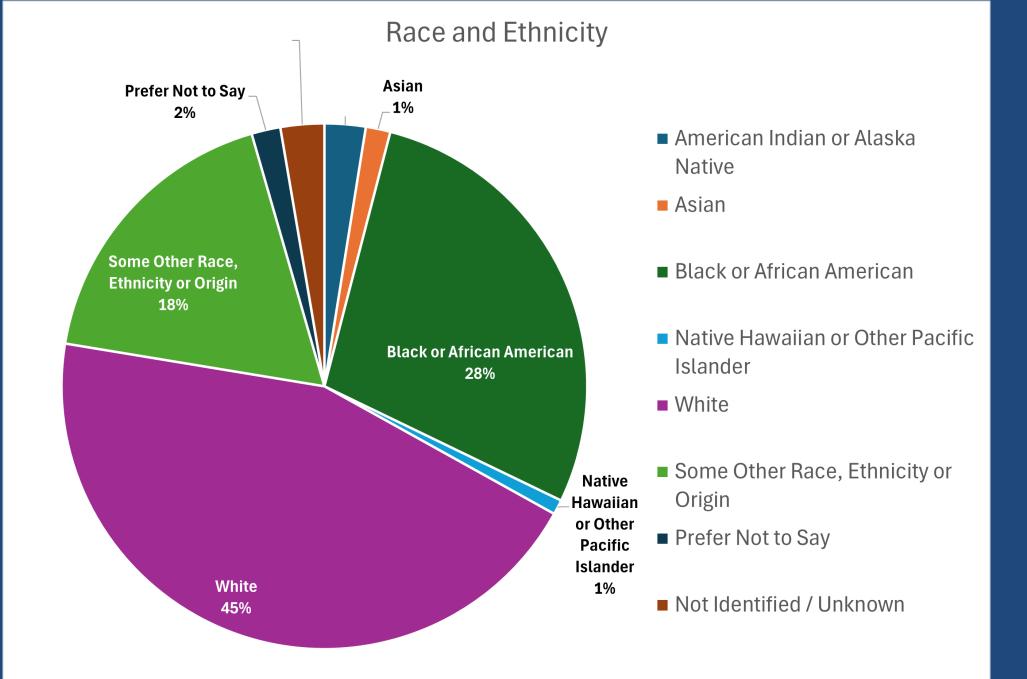
### Who does medical respite serve?

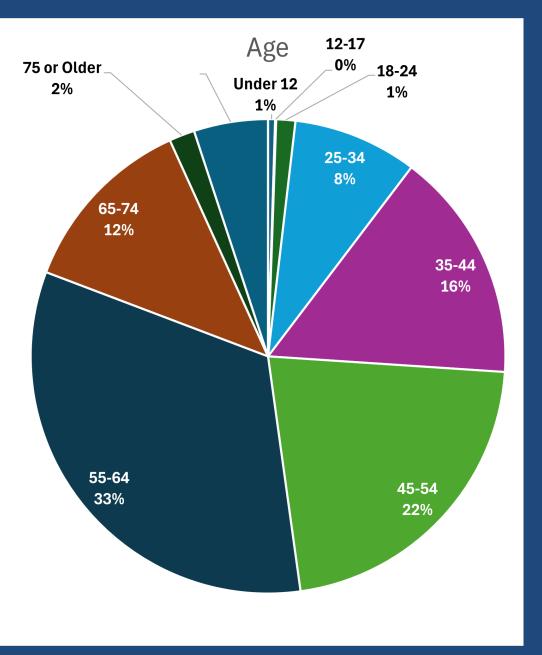
### The following data represents 46 programs and over 14,000 clients served.

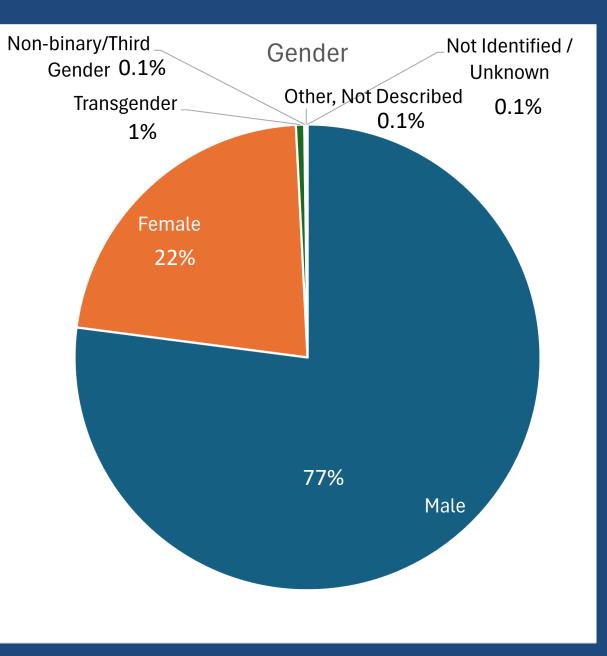




#### 







### Literature Review: Impact on Consumers

### MRC was found to:

- Improve health-related quality of life
- Positively impact
  health management

Those more likely to leave medical respite early were those who:

- Identify as women
- Were unsheltered prior to medical respite
- Actively use substances

### What does the data tell us?

**Medical respite care** clients are diverse individuals who may all present with differing needs and priorities however, one central theme is the need for rest and recuperation.

Today's symposium will help us explore ways to change our environments to holistically address the needs of those in our communities and programs

www.nimrc.org



### Follow us on social media!

National Health Care for the Homeless Council



National Institute for Medical Respite Care



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# Trading lenses

OUR PERCEPTIONS CARVE OUT OUR SPACES

# Agenda

- Introduction
- •DEI Principles in Design
- Practice Wearing lenses

### Introduction

- •What is DEI?
- •Why does it matter?
- •How do you use it?

## What is DEI?

Diversity, equity, and inclusion have become catch-all phrases, but ultimately, they represent an attempt to rectify what has been viewed as systematic issues in providing avenues for the flourishing of all individuals' potential, whether in the workplace, education, social engagement, or access to services, among others.

It has become a hot-button issue and unfortunately been used to justify "positive discrimination." Like any social justice movement, it has its limitations, but ultimately, the goal is to exercise compassion and invest our passions to bring opportunities to the marginalized.

# Why does it matter?

Why should it matter to you? It does, because it gives us all an opportunity to reflect on which systems we have adopted without healthy skepticism. Like any software, bugs need to be fixed, updates need to be made, and frameworks need to be repaired.

With that said, the standard we hold for equity will influence much of how we approach the execution.

In my personal view, God sets the standard of equity, and ultimately equity, justice, and restoration will come from His good and perfect will. With that said, we are His vehicles to accomplish equity, justice, and restoration. It is paramount that we take up the cause of the marginalized and underserved. This is why it matters.

# How do you use it?

•This is not a checklist; this is a measuring stick.

•It is an opportunity to reflect on how current systems in place affect the people experiencing them.

•In our efficient society it is much easier to create catch-all systems but that is inherently inequitable. Sacrifices will have to be made. Sacrifices of efficiency to make space for humanity to flourish.

•Do not get distracted by the verbiage; ultimately, your focus should be on how we are treating people. It is about their good, not our own. How can we serve them and help them reach their full potential, especially if it comes at a cost to our comfort?

# DEI principles in Design

•Buildings are not islands. They are part of the fabric of the community they are in. They are part of the social fabric. Each site has a story to tell, and people hear its silent tale. What story is the architecture telling?

•Are the fingerprints of humanity reflected inside our buildings? Is our commitment to perfection tolerant enough for our messy personhood? Are people allowed to be "in process" in our spaces? (*this will depend on the type of space being occupied course*)

•What is the ultimate purpose of the work being done here? How is it reflected in the furniture we select to the space programming we map out? What are our spoken initiatives but more importantly what are our hidden motives?

# Practice Wearing lenses

These concepts are typically abstract and grounding them in practical examples will illustrate the process of developing perspective.

# Practice Wearing lenses

These concepts are typically abstract and grounding them in practical examples will illustrate the process of developing perspective.

•What is your culture?

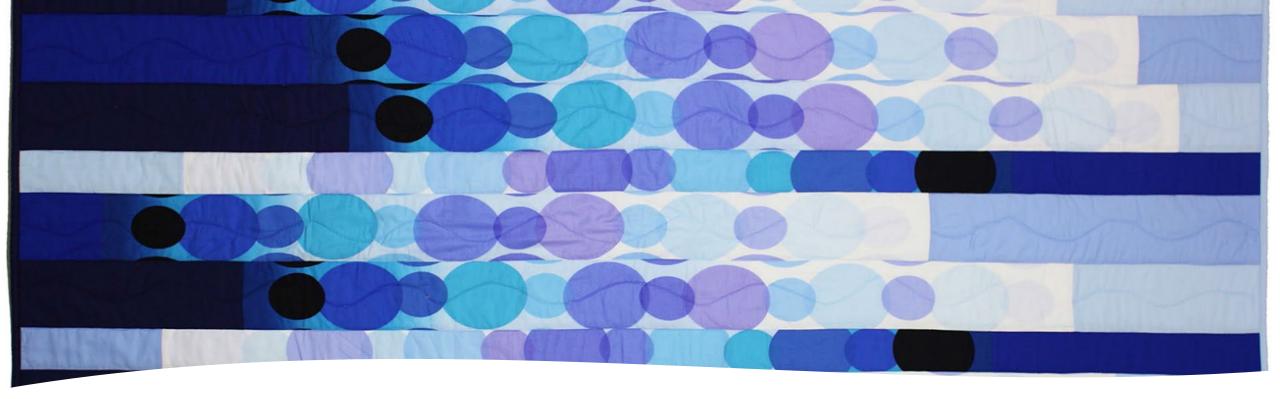
- Recognizing one's own cultural background and biases.
- Identifying the implicit expectations placed on the team.
- Understanding the diverse perspectives of end-users.
- Evaluating how cultural expectations may be influencing communication strategies and decision-making processes.

# Practice Wearing lenses

- How are our spaces affecting behaviors?
  - How do we exhibit autonomy / assert our uniqueness in the spaces we occupy?
  - Do we have spaces for different personality types? Example: Seclusion places for introverts and outdoors for extroverts.
  - Do certain spaces encourage informal interactions and idea sharing, while others promote focused work or privacy?
  - Are certain spaces perceived as more conducive to specific types of interactions or behaviors?
  - Are there discrepancies between the intended purpose of a space and how it is actually being used?
  - Explore how cultural norms and social dynamics within the organization shape behaviors in different spaces

# At the end of the day

- What is the story you are telling?
  - Who are you?
  - Who are they to you?
  - And what are you trying to accomplish



# TRAUMA-INFORMED DESIGNING FOR HEALING, DIGNITY, & JOY

Laura Rossbert, MDiv | Shopworks Architecture Jennifer Wilson, PhD, MSW | Shopworks Architecture





### What is Trauma-Informed Design?

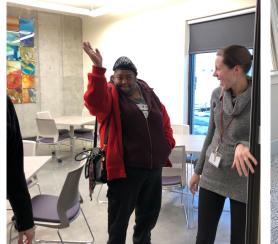
TID recognizes that how buildings are designed impacts health. TID prioritizes the human experience and draws on evidence-based multidisciplinary research (including brain science, biology, social work, and architecture) to identify and minimize potential trauma triggers and design buildings that promote dignity and healing.













Individual trauma results from an event, series of events, or set of circumstances that is experienced by an individual as physically or emotionally harmful or life threatening and that has lasting adverse effects on the individual's functioning and mental, physical, social, emotional, or spiritual well-being.

Source: SAMHSA, "SAMHSA's Concept of Trauma and Guidance for a Trauma-Informed Approach"

### Trauma & the Brain



### Trauma "Wears a Groove" in the Developing Brain

Because the brain is in a chronic state of fear-related activation, the brain can more easily be triggered into the "fear" track.

Fear-related activation includes:

- hypervigilance
- increased muscle tone
- focus on threat-related cues
- anxiety
- behavioral impulsivity



Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)



ABUSE

Physical



Emotional





NEGLECT

Physical



Emotional



Mental Illness

Incarcerated Relative





HOUSEHOLD DYSFUNCTION

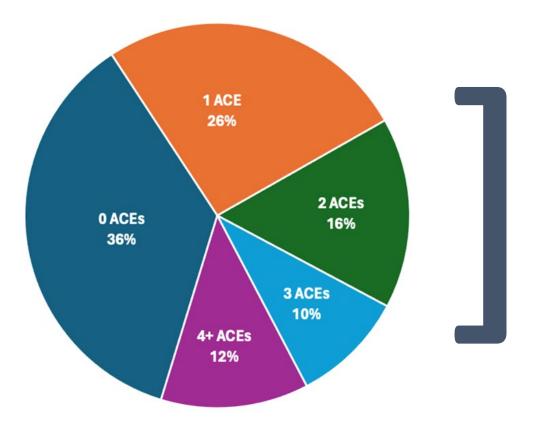
Substance Abuse



Mother treated violently

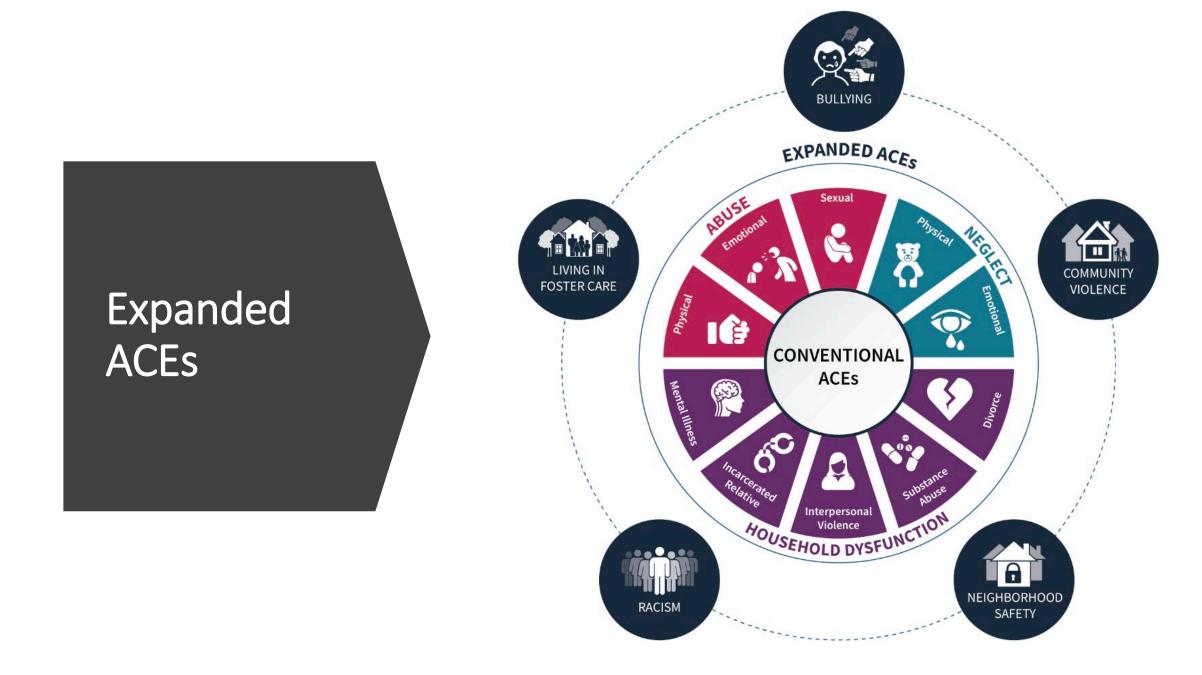
Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; Credit: Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

# Of 17,000 Study Participants:



# 64% have at least one ACE

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; Credit: Robert Wood Johnson Foundation



Source: Cronholm, P. F., Forke, C. M., Wade, R., Bair-Merritt, M. H., Davis, M., Harkins-Schwarz, M., Pachter, L. M., & Fein, J. A. (2015). Adverse childhood experiences: Expanding the concept of adversity. American Journal of Preventive Medicine, 49(3), 354–361.

# Harms of Urban Settings

- pulse rates higher
- systolic blood pressure increased
- higher cortisol levels
- parasympathetic activity increased
- immune functioning is lower

# Benefits of Nature

Reduced Stress Better Greater Sleep Happiness Lower Blood Pressure Better General Health

Improved Mental Health

Reduced Aggression Improved Immune Function

More Social Quicker Recovery Times





#### Residents with views of nature have:

- Decreased mental fatigue
- Reduction in domestic violence and aggression
- Better performance on measures of attentional functioning
- Lower drug and crime rates
- Improved management of life issues and increased ability to cope
- Increase trust of neighbors and feeling of community, and
- Children have better concentration and self-regulation

Source: Kuo, F. E. (2001). Coping with poverty: Impacts of environment and attention in the inner city. Environment and Behavior, 33(1), 5–34.

Dr. Ming Kuo Chicago Public Housing 1990s



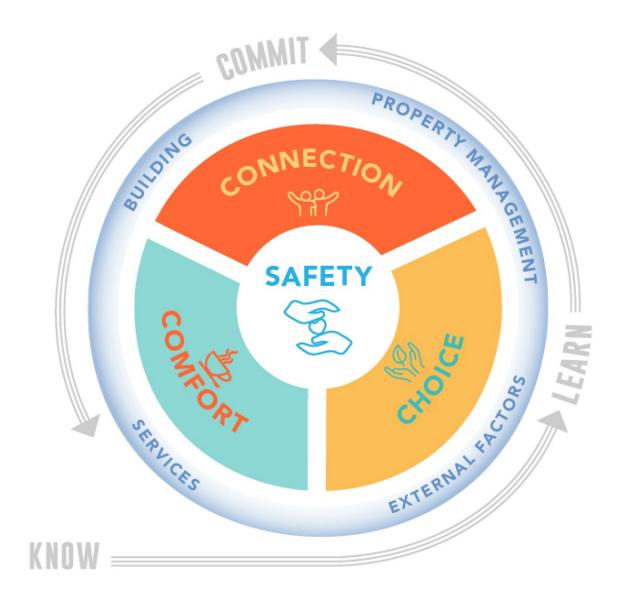
# TID RESEARCH

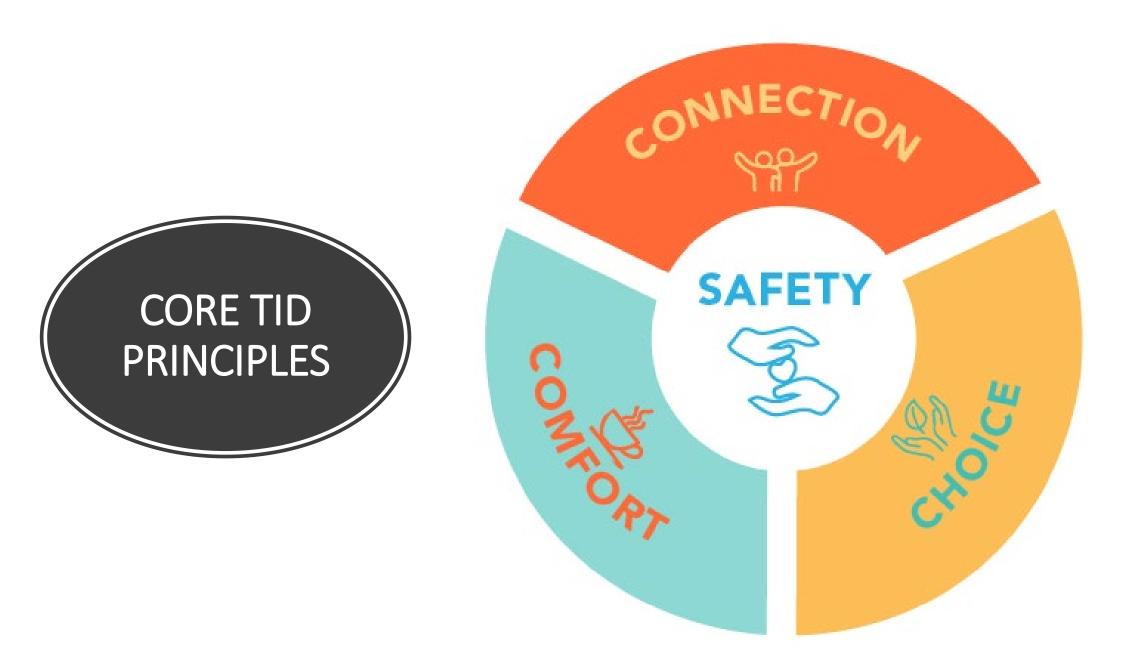
2000+ end users interviewed

50+ sites impacted

4000+ people trained

# TID FRAMEWORK







13 THE ELISABETTA | Denver, CO

### Different spatial experiences for different stress responses.







#### FIGHT

### FLIGHT

#### FREEZE



BUILDING



PROPERTY WINDOW CONNECTION WINDOW SAFETY CONNECTION WINDOW SAFETY CONNECTION WINDOW SAFETY CONNECTION 



#### PROPERTY MANAGEMENT



**EXTERNAL FACTORS** 

SERVICES

### KNOW

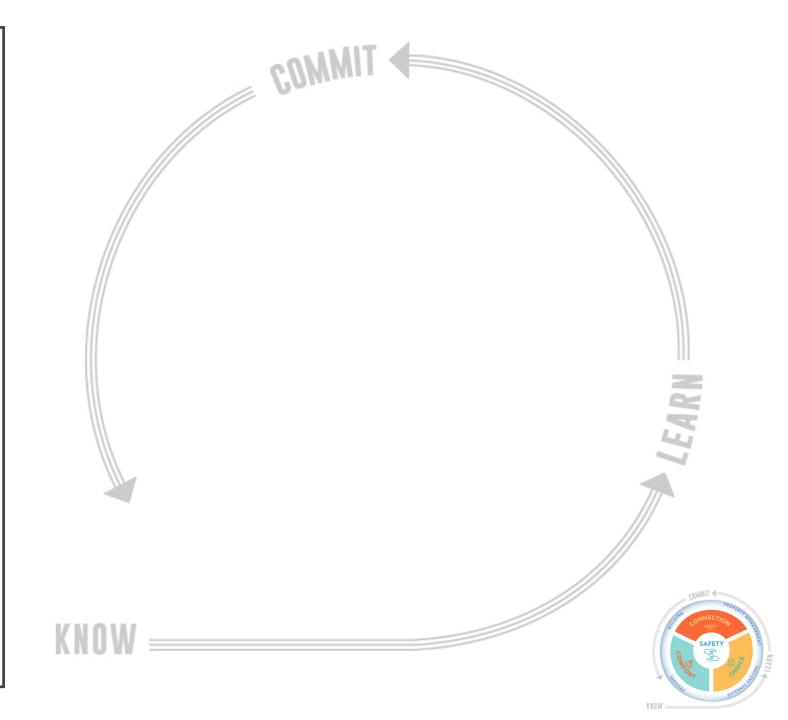
who you are designing for, local histories, how they are/are not represented by decision-makers.

### LEARN

by listening to and believing those with lived experience.

### COMMIT

to ongoing learning, advocating for equity, doing your own work.



# CASE EXAMPLES

## The Delores Project Shelter Denver, CO











## VOA Theodora Family Motel Denver, CO

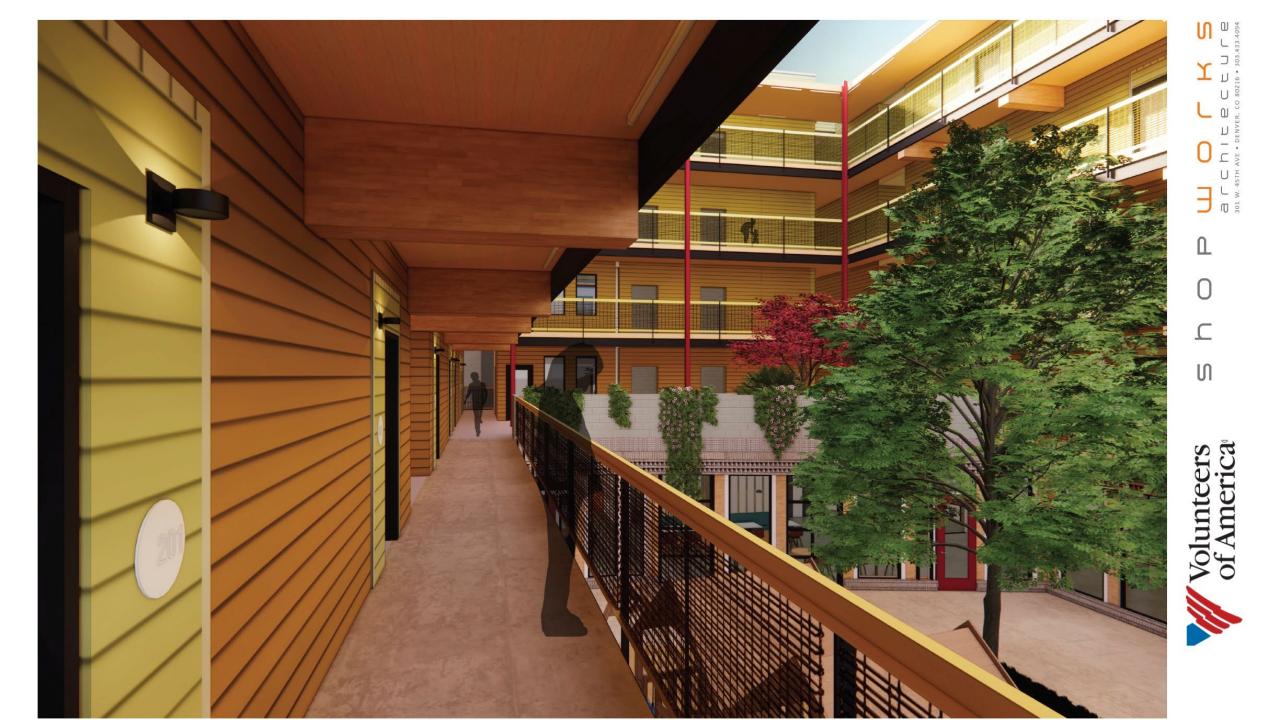






THEODORA FAMILY HOTEL 4855 W COLFAX AVE, DENVER, CO 80204

RENDERING: W. COLFAX AVE.





#### **THEODORA FAMILY HOTEL** 4855 W COLFAX AVE, DENVER, CO 80204

**RENDERING: INTERIOR LOBBY** 



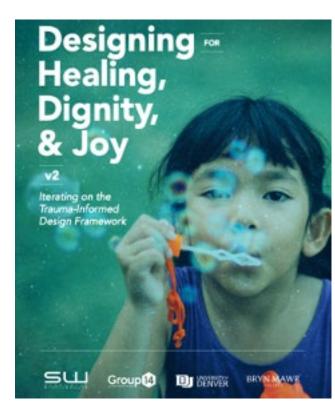


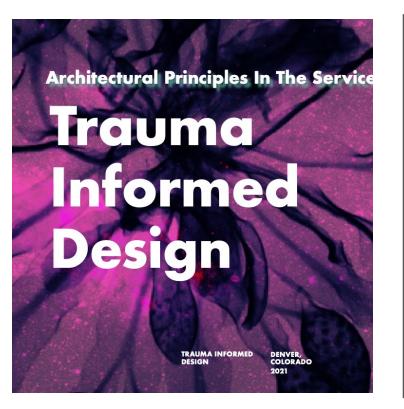


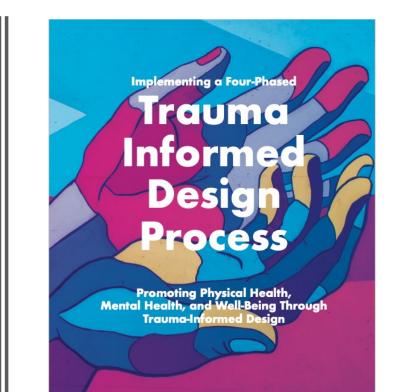












## Shopworksarc.com/tid



## **Accessibility in Programs**

April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024

Caitlin Synovec, OTD, OTR/L, BCMH

Research | Training & Technical Assistance | Policy & Advocacy | Consumer Voices



# What this talk includes:

#### Language for Talking about Disability

Inclusivity, Accessibility, and the Importance in Medical Respite

#### General Approaches

## Positionality to today's topic



## Language for Talking about Disability

## **Overview of Language: Disability**

- Defined by the <u>World Health Organization</u> (WHO):
  - Disability results from the interaction between individuals with a health condition with personal and environmental factors including negative attitudes, inaccessible transportation and public buildings, and limited social support.
- Defined by <u>Centers for Disease Control and Prevention</u> (CDC):
  - A disability is any condition of the body or mind (impairment) that makes it more difficult for the person with the condition to do certain activities (activity limitation) and interact with the world around them (participation restrictions).

A person's environment has a huge effect on the experience and extent of disability.

Inaccessible environments create barriers that often hinder the full and effective participation of persons with disabilities in society on an equal basis with others.

## **Overview of Language: Accessibility**

According to the Offices for Civil Rights (OCR) for both the DOJ and the DOE:

- "Accessible" means a person with a disability is afforded the opportunity to acquire the same information, engage in the same interactions, and enjoy the same services as a person without a disability in an equally effective and equally integrated manner, with substantially equivalent ease of use. The person with a disability must be able to obtain the information as fully, equally and independently as a person without a disability.
- Accessibility can also be understood as is the degree to which a product, device, service, environment, or facility is usable by as many people as possible, including by persons with disabilities.

## **Overview of Language: Inclusivity**

- Inclusivity: the practice or policy of providing equal access to opportunities and resources for people who might otherwise be excluded or marginalized.
- Inclusion means creating an environment where everyone feels valued, respected and has the opportunity to reach their full potential.
- An **inclusive environment** means that anyone can participate and contribute without having to change, conform or simply miss out and feel discriminated against.



Non-Accessible

## Inclusive Accessibility





## Overview of Language: Person-first and Identity-first

#### Person-first

- Puts the "person" before the disability or term to describe the disability
- Reduces stigma and reinforces that the person is more than their disability

#### **Identity First**

- Centers the disability
- Celebrates disability pride and to reclaim identity
- More commonly used by specific communities

People with disabilities are a diverse community with different identities, intersectionalities, beliefs, and cultures – you will encounter people who have varying experiences and feel very differently about their disability.

## Language Inclusivity

#### Avoid terms such as "differently-abled" or "handi-capable"

- These terms show that the word disability should be avoided
- Use terms such as "person with a disability," "non-disabled," or "person without a visible disability"

## Include or describe the person or their disability only if relevant to the information

- "The client uses a wheelchair for mobility" or "The client identifies their anxiety worsens in medical environments and they may need more support"
- NOT "The client is schizophrenic and staff will need to be careful when the client is in the room"

Why Accessibility & Inclusivity are a **Critical Part of** Medical Respite and **Homeless Services** 

## Disability as a Social Justice Issue

Disability rights were a result of the Civil Rights movement

The Disability Community is a community that continues and needs to continue to advocate for equal opportunities and access to resources and services

Disability intersects with many other identities

Disability and lack of accessibility is a reason that people have decreased access to health care and housing

## What is the ADA? [1 of 2]

### The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) signed in 1990

# Prohibits against discrimination against people with disabilities

#### Gives civil rights protections to people with disabilities

https://adata.org/learn-about-ada 14

## What is the ADA? [2 of 2]

Promotes equal opportunity for individuals with disabilities in: **Public accommodations** – privately own facilities such as hotels, restaurants, doctor's offices, schools and day care centers, movie theaters, etc.

**Employment** - Employers must provide reasonable accommodations to qualified applicants or employees. Employers with 15 or more employees must comply with this law

**Local and state government services** - applies to all state and local governments, their departments and agencies, and any other instrumentalities or special purpose districts of state or local governments. This includes transportation.

**Telecommunications** – requires phone and internet companies to provide a system of communications that people with speech and hearing disabilities can use to communicate

## What's happened since the ADA?

There have been major shifts in increasing accessibility of public spaces however...

Applicable entities were supposed to start transition plans to become accessible but there was not significant funding to do so

There is not an entity that seeks out enforcing the ADA

 if an entity has not done it then often it doesn't change until someone brings specific legal action

Often, the burden remains on the person with disability

## **Disability and Homelessness**

25-40% of people experiencing homelessness have a disability

When denied access to shelter (because shelters are inaccessible or because the shelter feels they are inappropriate/unsafe to stay there) – 70% of people with disabilities stay in outside locations

High levels of health conditions, chronic illness, and geriatric conditions are risk factors for functional impairment and developing challenges with function at earlier ages

### Disability, Housing, and Income



The annual income for a Supplemental Security Income (SSI) recipient is around \$9,528, below the US poverty level



People with disabilities live in poverty at more than twice the rate of people without disabilities

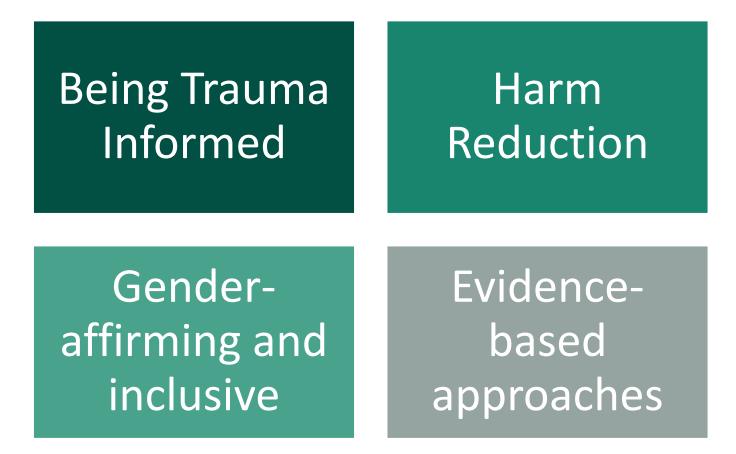


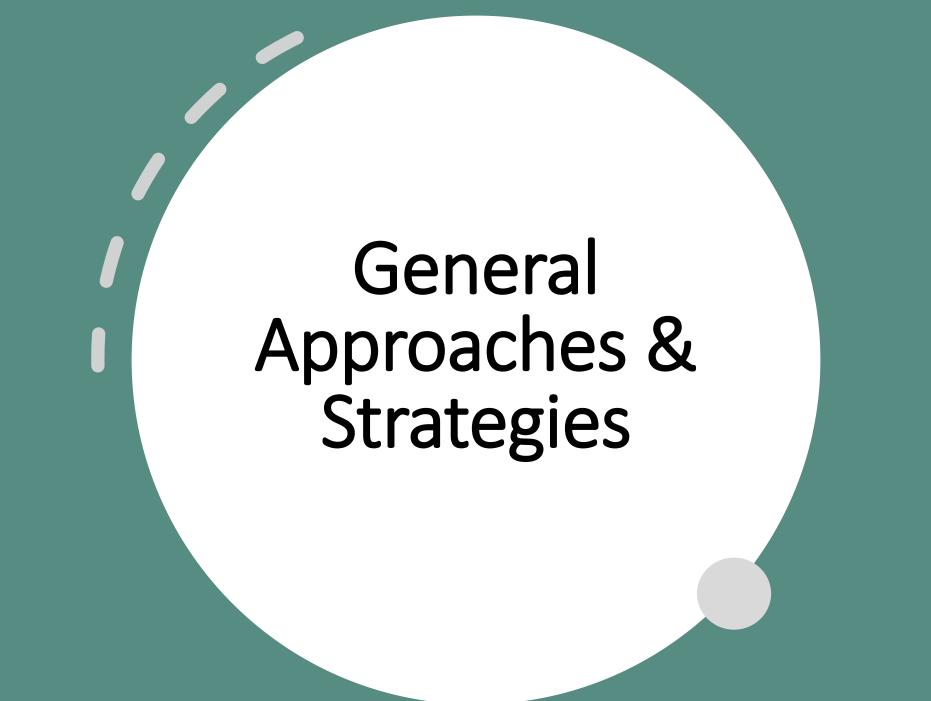
Less than 1% of affordable housing stock is wheelchair accessible and less than 5% can accommodate moderate mobility disabilities

(National Council on Disability, 2017; National Low Income Housing Coalition, 2021)

## Aligns with Our Work to Promote Best Practices

Accessibility and inclusivity is an aspect of:





## **Overview of Creating Accessibility & Inclusivity**

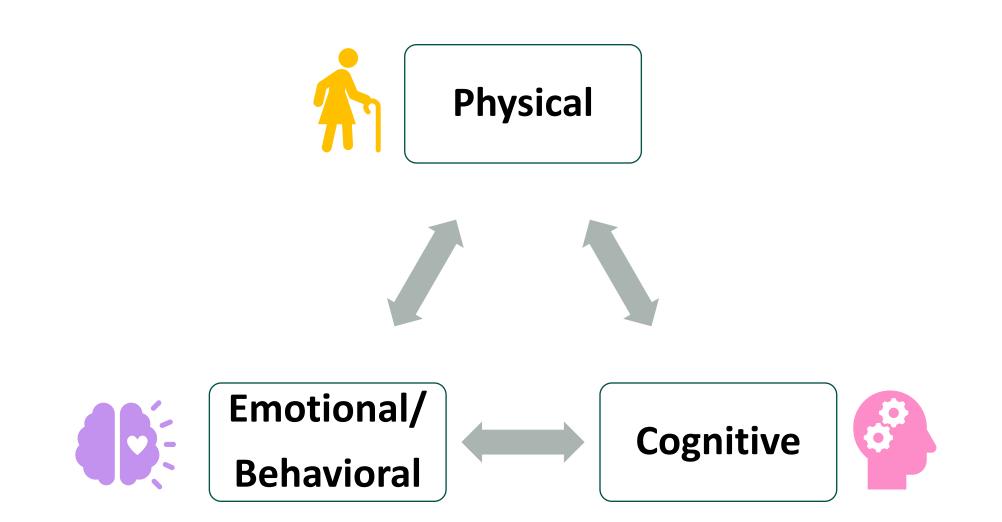
#### A goal of inclusivity is to minimize the effort people need to make in order to be included or have access

- People with disabilities are often burdened with having to make requests for accommodations, plan ahead of time for events, or make concessions around their participation
- By being inclusive we reduce this burden

# Inclusion also means how we approach and talk about disability

 Use inclusive and person-centered language in all forms of communication – including documentation!

## **Categories of Accessibility**





#### **Creates access to structures for different physical abilities & disabilities**

Install ramps as able to provide an alternative to stairs	Secure handrails at all stairs in and outside	Non-slip tread on stairs	Contrast at edge of stairs and transitions in floors
Non-slip mats or tread in bathrooms and showers	Remove or secure loose rugs	Clear pathways and hallways	Remove cords and other tripping hazards
Add grab bars within the bathroom/ shower	Ensure adequate lighting in all rooms	Have sensor detected night- lights in hallways or bathrooms	Change lightbulbs or provide additional light through lamps

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Creates access for different learning and thinking abilities in spaces and activities

Using auditory & visual instructions	Demonstrating & having the person practice new skills	Clear signage	Pauses & breaks
Ensuring information is easy to find	Use health literacy guidelines for written materials	Have a person available to answer questions	Have a process to address when systems are ineffective

# Emotional & Behavioral Accessibility

Creates access for different self and emotional regulation in spaces and activities

Quiet spaces or rooms	Opportunity for movement and breaks	Opportunity for activity and engagement	Natural or non- fluorescent lighting
Use of sensory strategies	Accepting of different routines and for clients to have a "bad" day	Communicate consistent expectations for clients and staff	Staff training in de-escalation and trauma-informed care



Non-slip tread



### Accessibility for ADLs



Removeable Shower Bench



ADA Accessible Bathroom with Shower

**Grab Bars** 

#### **Accessible Toilets**





- Measure what will fit current facilities
- Install safely and properly



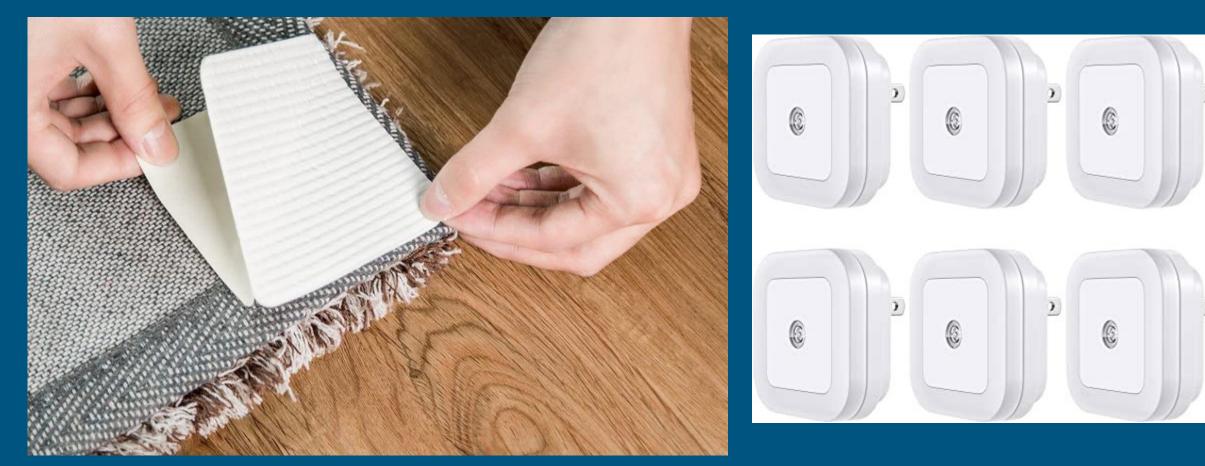
# **Stairs**



Contrast at stair edges

Outdoor handrails

#### **Falls Prevention**



Non-slip backing to secure floor rug

Sensor night light

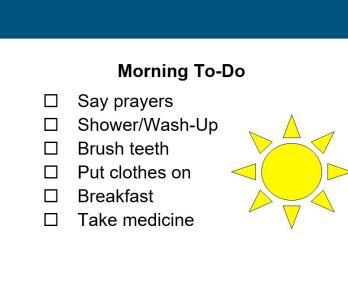
# **Visual Reminders for Daily Routines**

- Should be placed in natural and easy to view locations
- Don't overuse focus on important reminders or tasks
- Should be readable and make sense to the person









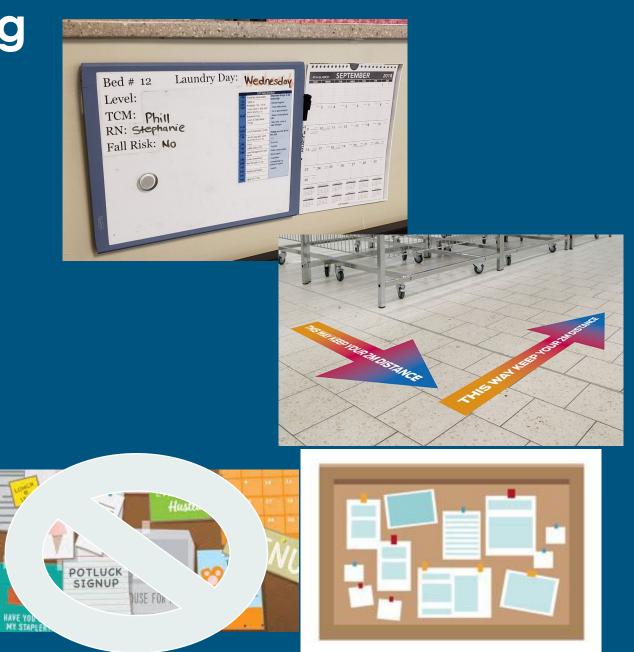
#### Night To-Do

- Wash face
- Mouthwash
- Comb hair
- Take medicine



# Signage and Way Finding

- Use clear, large signage to point out key instructions or features
- Label different areas of the space
- Arrows to show flow of movement in building
- Keep information in organized and central locations
- Bulletin board of group information
  - Lists of providers
  - Update information routinely
  - Minimize clutter



### Space to Organize Personal Items

- Keep priority items safe but easy to access
- Use folders or labels to help quickly identify the right folder/drawer
- Store items that are used together in the same location
- Minimize clutter as much as possible







#### **Beds with Locked Storage**

# Questions?

# **Resources on Disability Justice + Inclusive Language**

- <u>Writing Respectfully: Person-first and Identify-first language</u>:
  - The NIH Style Guide
  - Disability Language Style Guide
  - Words Matter: Preferred Language for Talking About Addiction
  - How Health Communicators and Journalists Can Help Replace Stigma with Science
  - <u>National Association of the Deaf Community and Culture(link is external)</u>
  - <u>Autistic Self Advocacy Network</u>
- World Health Organization Disability
  - <u>https://www.who.int/health-topics/disability#tab=tab\_1</u>
- UN Convention on Human Rights for Persons with Disabilities: https://www.un.org/development/desa/disabilities/resources/general-assembly/convention-on-the-rights-ofpersons-with-disabilities-ares61106.html
- Disability Rights and Racial Justice: <u>https://www.naacpldf.org/disability-rights-and-racial-justice/</u>
  - <a href="https://disabilityrightsflorida.org/blog/entry/impactful\_black\_disability\_advocates\_and\_advocates#:~:tex\_t=Donald%20Galloway%20was%20an%20impactful,disability%20advocate%20his%20entire%20life">https://disabilityrightsflorida.org/blog/entry/impactful\_black\_disability\_advocates\_and\_advocates#:~:tex\_t=Donald%20Galloway%20was%20an%20impactful,disability%20advocate%20his%20entire%20life</a>.

# **NHCHC/NIMRC Resources**

- Falls Prevention and Screening:
  - Falls Screening in Medical Respite Care
  - Falls Screening in Medical Respite Care Fillable PDF Form
- Webinars:
- Addressing Cognition + Dementia in Medical Respite
- Addressing ADL in Medical Respite
- <u>Addressing Incontinence in Medical Respite</u>
- Trauma-Informed Environment In Medical Respite
- Clinical Guidelines:
  - <u>Clinical Guidelines for Medical Respite Care: Activities of Daily Living</u>
  - <u>Clinical Guidelines in Medical Respite Care: Incontinence</u>
  - <u>Clinical Guidelines for MRC: Cognition</u>
  - Clinical Guidelines for MRC: Dementia

# **Accessibility Resources**

- ADA Technical Assistance Center: <u>https://adata.org/</u>
  - Tax Incentives for Small Business: <u>https://gpadacenter.org/audiences/small-business/tax-incentives-for-small-businesses/</u>
- <u>Disability and homelessness:</u> <u>https://www.naccho.org/blog/articles/homelessness-among-individuals-with-</u> <u>disabilities-influential-factors-and-scalable-solutions</u>



#### Follow us on social media!

#### National Health Care for the Homeless Council



National Institute for Medical Respite Care



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www.nhchc.org



# Looking to the Future

NATIONAL HEALTH CARE for the HOMELESS COUNCIL April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024

The National Institute for Medical Respite Care is a special program of the National Health Care for the Homeless Council.

#### Trauma informed care and design is a journey ...



## Key Take Aways



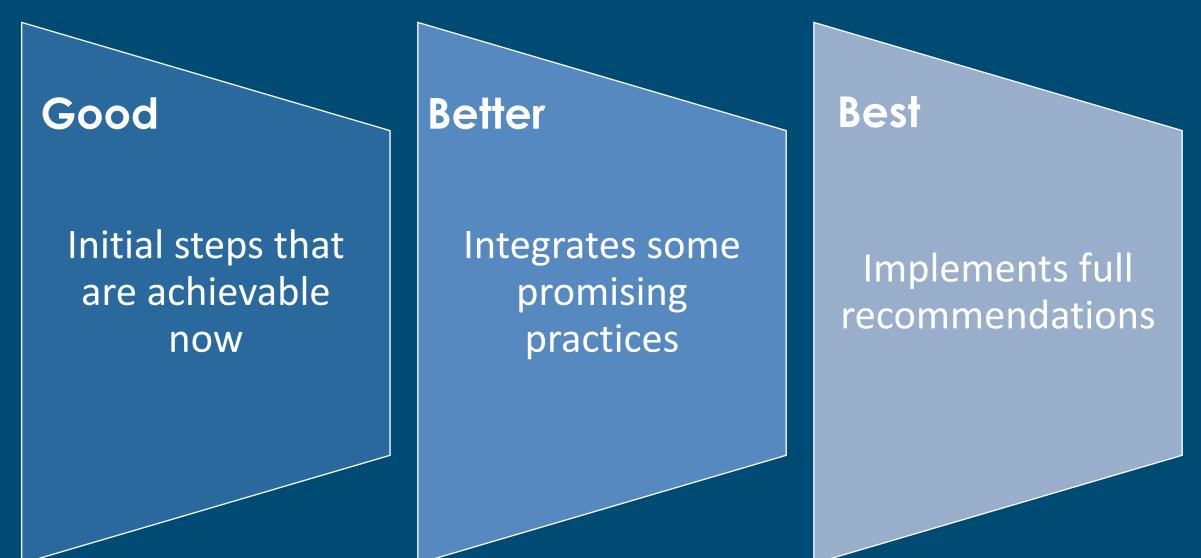
Environment plays a critical role in healing

Requires a commitment to traumainformed care

**Requires flexibility** 

Should respond to the needs of your community, clients, and staff

#### How do we move forward?



#### Good

Gather and use feedback from clients/ consumers of the program and those with lived experience

Meet basic ADA and accessibility guidelines and create greater access for those with physical, cognitive, and behavioral health needs

Create access to nature/ natural spaces

Train staff on the importance of the environment and physical spaces

#### Better

Involve clients/ consumers in design decision-making

Modify spaces within the program – maybe select or communal spaces

Go beyond required number of accessible bathrooms/ amenities

Train staff on the importance of the environment and physical spaces

### Best

Involve clients/ consumers in design decision-making

Create new spaces or use trauma-informed design from the beginning of facility design/ building

Incorporate outside spaces and make the space as least restrictive as possible

Make all spaces fully accessible to all potential clients/ needs

Mentimeter – what are you taking away from today's presentations?

# Thank You!

www.nimrc.org



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