

Trauma-Informed Care

Implementation in a Juvenile Justice Setting

Texas Judicial Commission on Mental Health

April 5, 2019



Research-Based Frameworks

SEARCH INSTITUTE ®

Developmental Assets®

SPARKS®

Developmental Relationships®



KARYN PURVIS INSTITUTE OF CHILD DEVELOPMENT

Trust-Based Relational Intervention®

 **FOCUS ON HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS**

Adverse Childhood Experiences



ABUSE

Physical, Mental,
Emotional,
Sexual



NEGLECT

Emotional,
Physical



FAMILY DYSFUNCTION

Mental illness,
Divorce,
Incarceration

Prevalence – National/State Data

JUSTICE POLICY INSTITUTE & TEXAS SYSTEM OF CARE

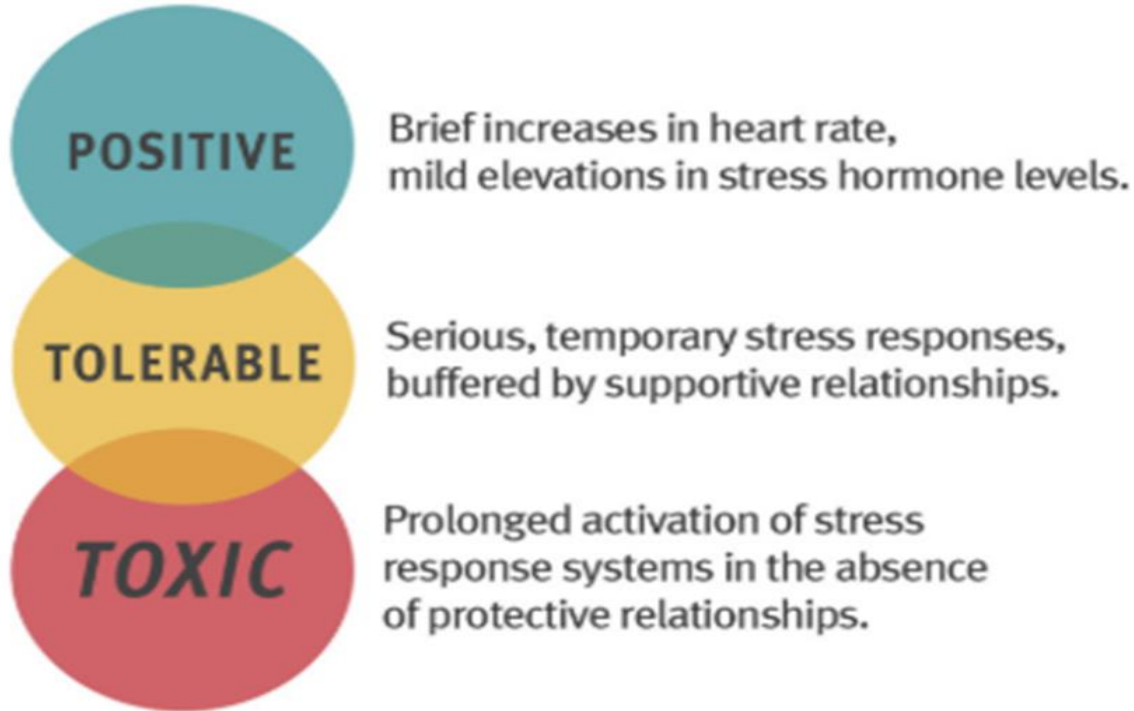
General Population: 14%-34% of children have experienced at least one traumatic event

Youth in Juvenile Justice System: 75%-93% have experienced at least one traumatic event

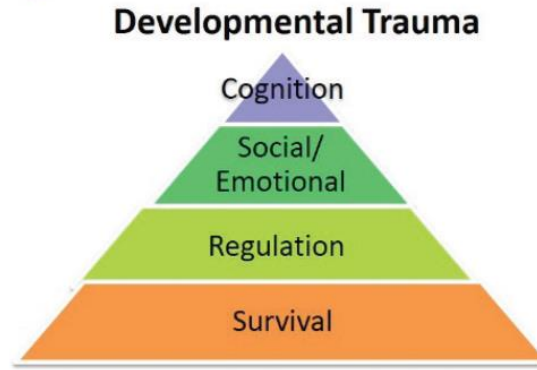
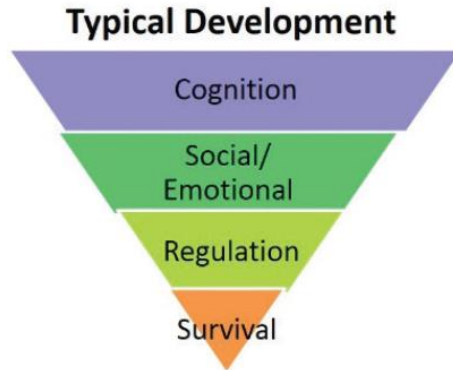
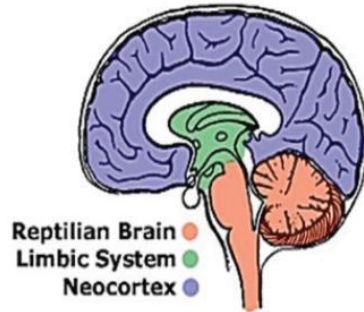
Average number of 6 traumas reported by JJ Youth, TJJD youth 3.5 times more likely to have 4 or more ACEs

Youth in the JJ population have rates of PTSD comparable to those of service members returning from Iraq

How Stress Effects the Body



Trauma and Brain Development



A New Lens

Willful Disobedience



Survival Behavior



Trauma Can Effect Developmental Age



Chronological Age



Developmental Age



Street Smarts

Traditional Approach

Seclusion/room confinement

Pat Down/ Strip search

Confrontation/directive approach

Punishment/Isolation

Cold, Sterile Environment

Loud, Heavy Doors

Formal, hierarchical Relationships (Officer/Juvenile)

Focus On offense/ Public Safety rather than risk/needs

Boot camps and Military models



Building Resilience

FELT SAFETY

CONNECTIONS

COPING

Felt Safety: Key Questions for Relationship Building

What does this person need? Am I helping them meet their need?

Is the person developmentally capable of accomplishing what I'm asking?

Am I regulated enough to help this person?

If I were in their shoes, how would I like to be approached?

Am I connected enough to this person to make a difference?

Feedback: is this person responding or do I need to try something else?

Is this a teaching moment?

Coping: Skills Development

Negotiating Needs

Give care & Receive care

Mindfulness

Self-regulation

Prosocial Communication

SPARKS® Identification Tool



Connections: Finding the Spark®



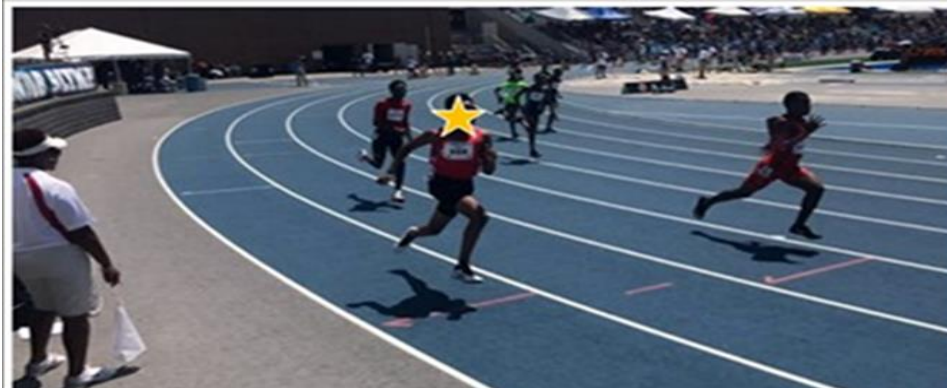
A **SPARK®** is an activity, passion or interest that truly engages kids to be their best such as sports, art and music. Search Institute® research shows that kids who **thrive** have three important supports:

- Knowledge of their own SPARKS®
- Opportunity to use their SPARKS®
- Adults who support the development of those SPARKS®

Feeding Spark®



Here's a success story about an accomplishment made by a young man through positive connections and support in the community. A young man on JPO Tracy Patters' caseload recently competed in the 2018 Junior Olympic Games through the Austin Striders Track Club. The young man competed in the Boys 12-year-old 200 Meter Dash and is now nationally listed as the 21st fastest 12 year-old that competed. The Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) is an amateur sports organization based in the United States. A multi-sport organization, the AAU is dedicated exclusively to the promotion and development of amateur sports and physical fitness programs. JPO Tracy Patters supported the family and the young man in accomplishing his SPARK®. This is a great example of how we as a department can support but also empower our families to take the lead in their child's life.

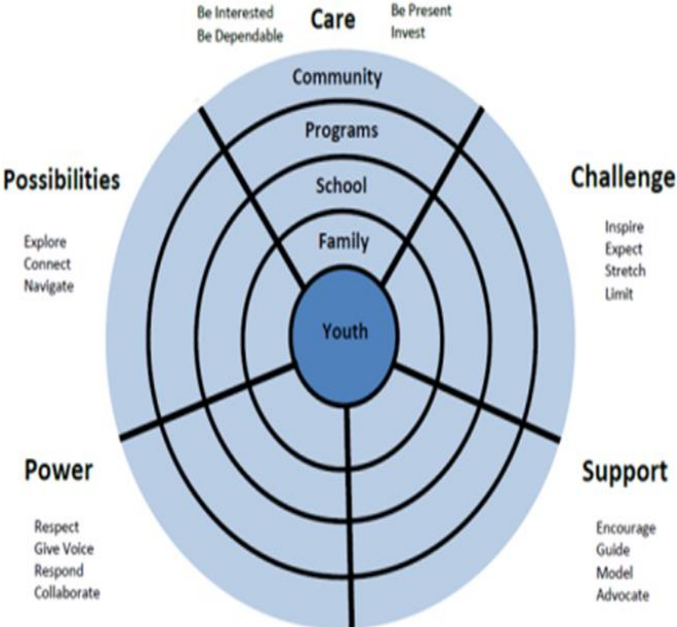


Feeding Spark®

This beautiful piece of art was created by a local youth and donated to the Annunciation Maternity Home. This youth's SPARK® (passion) is art and she wanted to share her gift with others in the community as she was very touched by the work that the Annunciation Maternity Home does.



A Framework for Mapping Relationships



Trauma-Informed Juvenile Courtroom Practices

- Youth escorted into court by Youth Engagement Specialists (relationship) – no handcuffs/restraints unless a serious safety issue
- Availability of sensory items in the courtroom (fidgets, etc.)
- Therapy dogs in the courtroom and in the holding area for youth awaiting court
- Judge expectation of limited adversarial arguments that could re-traumatize youth/family
- Judge makes eye contact, checks-in, validates feelings, and treats all in court with dignity and respect
- Judge, attorneys, prosecutor, juvenile services all trained in trauma-informed care with an intentional focus on not re-traumatizing in the court room

Williamson County Youth Behavioral Health Taskforce

Who are we?



The Williamson County Child and Youth Behavioral Health Taskforce is a subcommittee of the Williamson County Behavioral Health Taskforce comprised of school districts, private and non-profit organizations, public agencies and other stakeholders interested in improving the behavioral health of Williamson County children and youth.

- Began meeting monthly in 2012
- 68 total agencies represented

What is our Vision?

The children, youth and families of Williamson County will be supported by a seamless, integrated continuum of school/community services and supports that:

- promote behavioral health and well-being;
- enable the early identification of concerns, and;
- ensure the use of the least intervention needed when concerns arise.

What do we do?



Identify and take action upon issues impacting the mental health and well-being of children and youth in Williamson County.



Identify and take action upon issues impacting substance use issues affecting the health and well-being of Williamson County children and youth.



Facilitate cross-sharing of knowledge and perspectives from different groups.



Develop policy recommendations.



Cultivate a broad range of voices to help advance children and youth behavioral health awareness within Williamson County.

Williamson County Youth Behavioral Health Taskforce

Agencies Represented

Austin Oaks Hospital	Georgetown ISD	NAMI Austin	Texas Department of State Health Services
Austin State Hospital	Georgetown Partners in Education	Opportunities for Williamson and Burnet	Texas Neuro Rehab
Bluebonnet Trails Community Services	Georgetown Public Library	Phoenix House	The Caring Place
Cal Farley's	Girls Empowerment Network	Pick With Austin	The Christi Center
CARY (Council on At-Risk Youth)	Granger ISD	Rock Prairie Behavioral Health Hospital	The Georgetown Project
Catalyst Collective	HOLOGRAM	Rock Springs Behavioral Health Hospital	The Key2Free
Cedar Crest Hospital	Hope Alliance	Round Rock ISD	The Right Step
Cenikor	Hutto ISD	Round Rock Opportunity Center	Traffic911
Child & Mental Health Advocates	Intervention Services	Sage Recovery and Wellness Center	Wilco Justice of the Peace Courts
Children's Support Coalition	Jarrell ISD	Samaritan Center	Wilco Wellness Alliance
City of Georgetown Library	Jervey & Associates	Sandbox at Madeline's Place	Williamson County and Cities Health District
Community Resource Coordination Group	Leander ISD	Seton Shoal Creek Hospital	Williamson County CASA
Cross Creek Hospital	Liberty Hill ISD	Spirit Reins	Williamson County Children's Advocacy
Florence ISD	LifeSteps	STARRY Round Rock	Williamson County CIT/MOT
Gen Austin	Lone Star Circle of Care	Taylor ISD	Williamson County Commissioners
Georgetown Behavioral Health Institute	Magellan	Teen and Family Services	Williamson County Juvenile Services
Georgetown Health Foundation	Memorial Hermann Prevention and Recovery Center	Texas A&M Health Sciences Center	Texas Department of Family & Protective Services

Strengthening the System of Care

- 2016 – Initial TBRI® Training for all WCJS staff
- 2016-2018 – Trauma Informed Classrooms & Social Emotional Health training for Wilco ISDs at Williamson County Mental Health in Schools Conference
- 2017 – TBRI® Overview training for attorneys, law enforcement, court staff at Wilco Behavioral Health in the Legal & Justice Systems conference
- 2017 – Judge Mathews initiates requirement that all attorneys appointed to Juvenile cases must attend full-day trauma-informed care video workshop
- 2019 – Resilient Wilco forms a community resilience initiative aimed at educating the community about the impact of trauma and how to foster resilience

How do we know it's working?

Residential Services

6 – month follow-up comparison after TBRI® implementation
CORE Residential (trauma-informed) vs. Academy (military structure)

- 83% decrease in youth grievances filed
- 93% decrease in suicide watches
- 31% decrease in physical restraints
- 45% increase in completion of program

How do we know it's working?

Field Services

Cases returned to court for Violation of Probation

- FY 2016 – 86 cases
- FY 2017 – 60 cases
- FY 2018 – 46 cases

*** attributable to working more collaboratively with youth and families using TBRI® empowering, connecting, and correcting principles.