### HEARTSPACE CLINIC

Resiliency Informed Services



- Nonprofit organization
- Mission: To provide trauma and resilience education, training, consultation and counseling to children, families, organizations and the community at large.
- Vision: A community united and empowered to compassionately grow resilience in all its members and groups.

#### RESILIENCE

#### • Resilience is all about the nervous system

• Best case scenario is to have a nervous system that stays within a healthy range of arousal and settling without getting stuck in over or under-activation

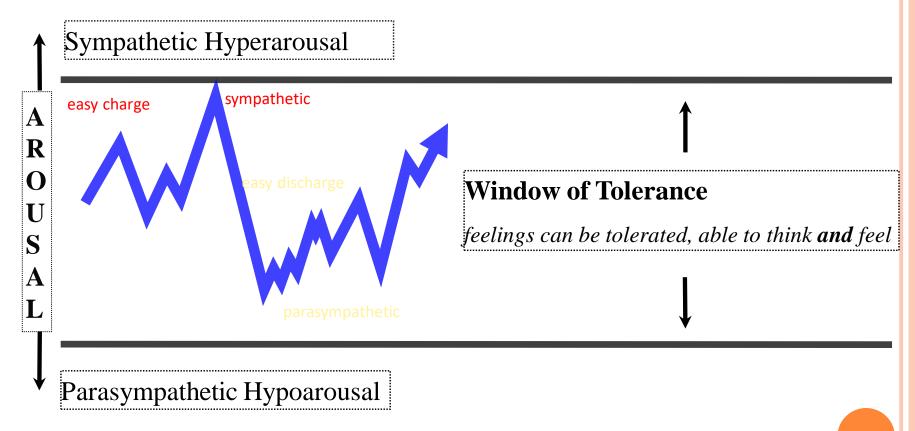
• This happens on a sensory level. It is not a cognitive process.

#### PROMOTING RESILIENCE IN CHILDREN

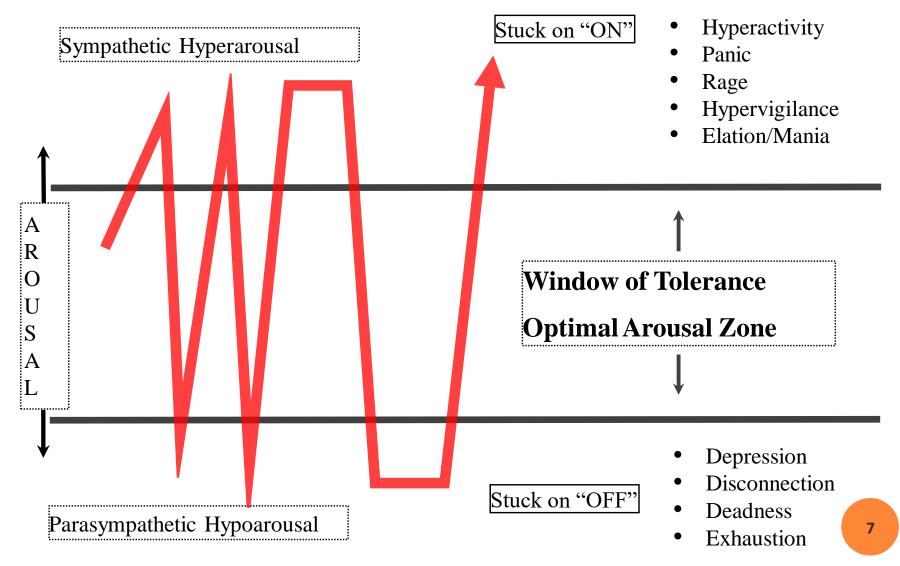
- Healthy relationships with competent, caring, supportive adults
- Connections with positive role models or mentors
- Having their strengths and abilities acknowledged and cultivated
- A sense of control over their lives
- Being part of a community (e.g., family, scout troop, church, etc.)

# But what if the adults are not resilient?

#### Autonomic Arousal is Designed to Adapt to Environmental Demands



### Autonomic Adaptation to a Threatening V



Foundation of Human Enrichment Fisher, 2006

We HAVE to help the adults – including (especially) ourselves – if we want to help the children

## COMPONENTS OF AN ADEQUATE BEHAVIORAL RESPONSE SYSTEM

Response

Perspective Taking and Connection

Sensory awareness/Nervous System regulation

### The Community Resilience Project

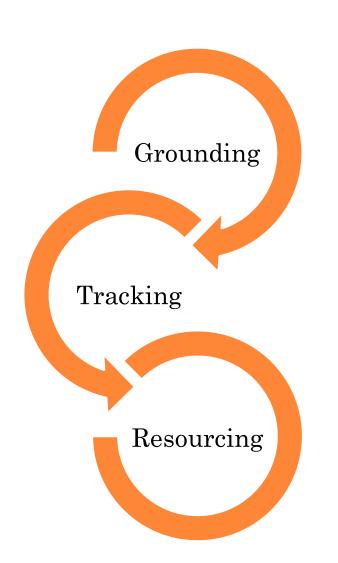
### PARTNER WITH THE TRAUMA RESOURCE INSTITUTE (TRI)

- TRI's purpose:
  - To cultivate trauma-informed and resiliency-focused individuals and communities worldwide
- TRI has developed:
  - Trauma Resiliency Model® (TRM®)
  - Community Resiliency Model® (CRM®),

### PARTNERING WITH THE TRAUMA RESOURCE INSTITUTE

- TRM® is oriented toward mental health professionals
  - Includes an expanded component that teaches trauma resolution skills for specific traumatic incidents
- CRM® takes on a public health focus
  - Can be taught to any interested community member
- A Teacher Training curriculum has also been developed for CRM® to promote capacity-building and sustainability in communities

### BASIC 3 CRM SKILLS



#### TRACKING IS FOUNDATIONAL

- Tracking paying attention to sensations
- Foundation for stabilizing the nervous system in any situation
- Helps children and adults learn to differentiate between sensations of distress and sensations of being settled
- We tend to pay much more attention to sensations of distress (anxiety)
- As a result we miss the opportunity for noticing sensations of well being
- Tracking these leads directly to nervous system settling (rest/digest)

#### RESEARCH INFORMED

- State of California Mental Health Services Act of 2013
- Goal was to bring CRM to seven marginalized
- African American, Latino, LGBTQ, Pacific-Islanders-Asian, Native American, high risk youth, Veterans
- Statistically significant decreases in depression, hostility, anxiety and somatic symptoms
- Statistically significant increases in reports of relaxation, contentment and somatic well-being

### COMMUNITY RESILIENCE PROJECT FIRST LEVEL INTERVENTION

Teach TRM to Mental Health Professionals (MHPs)

> Improve resilience of MHPs and reduce burnout

> Give MHPs specific skills to teach clients and to use to resolve traumatic experiences

### COMMUNITY RESILIENCE PROJECT SECOND LEVEL INTERVENTION

Develop CRM
Teachers
Goal = 160

Spread CRM

Goal = 160 teachers teach 5 groups of 20 16,000 community members learn CRM skills And in other news.....

### TECHNOLOGY ENHANCED TREATMENT PROJECT

- HeartMath (HM) 5 to 6 weeks once per week
- Safe and Sound (SSP) 5 days in a row for 1 hour
- Evidence based
- Free
- Randomly assigned to HM, SSP or both
- Incentives
- Boone county children or adults with children under the age of 18
- History of trauma
- Pre, post and post questionnaires

Funding provided by Children's Services Fund

### HEARTMATH (HM)

- Biofeedback
- Targets Heart Rate Variability (HRV)
  - A measure of neurocardiac function that reflects heart-brain interactions and autonomic nervous system dynamics
  - Associated with many physical and emotional signs of good health and resilience
- HM teaches tools to impact HRV while providing real time feedback via an ear piece that measures HRV
- Special programming for children

#### SAFE AND SOUND

- Based on Stephen Porges' Polyvagal Theory
- 5 day sound based auditory intervention
- Reduces stress and auditory sensitivity
  - Based on data that suggests that auditory sensitivity is a function of, and contributes to, an overactivated sympathetic nervous system
- Reduces sympathetic activation fight/flight
- Allows for more social engagement due to improving parasympathetic activation
- By dampening the sympathetic activation child or adult is more open to other therapeutic interventions

#### CONTACT



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