



What Does A Quality Wraparound Assessment Process Look Like?

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Section Heading Will Go Here

Objectives

- Assessment process overview
- Integration of CANS and Functional Screen into Assessment process
- Explaining Assessment process to families
- Staff Development/Support
- Sample Templates/Tools

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Overview of Referral/Assessment Process

- More than just meeting a requirement
- Foundation of all future work with consumer
- Approach it as a conversation
- Ever changing document
- Strengths and Needs/Assessment Summary

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Integration with CANS and Functional Screen

- CANS completed after gathering all assessment information
- Worker knowledgeable about CANS questions
- Worker knowledgeable about Functional Screen information

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Engagement with Families

- Process should be conversational
- Explaining the assessment process to youth/families
- Use of pie chart, Genogram, Ecomap
- Challenge with engaging in a virtual world

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Staff Development, Training and Support

- Initial Training
- Role of Mentor
- Sample Assessments
- Shadowing workers
- Ongoing review and feedback

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Development of CCS Assessment Summary

- Current functioning-sensitivity to level of detail
- Strengths and Needs
- Prioritizing top level needs
- Capturing progress (differences with initial/6mo reviews)
- Summary and Recommendations

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Functional Strengths

Strengths that can be used in building the action steps of a plan are functional strengths

A functional strength is a skill, ability, resource, talent, or support that can be used to directly meet a need or solve a concern.

How do I find them?

- Ask this question – “As evidenced by...” or “How do we know”
- Example – “Motivated to change” is a strength. Now ask the question above.

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Needs and Underlying Needs

Underlying needs are what *drive the behaviors* that worry or challenge us
Challenging behaviors are the symptoms of unmet needs

Needs are not behaviors and Needs are not services

- Example: Acting out at school is a **behavior**. Addressing an undiagnosed learning disability that prompts the behavior may be a **underlying need**.
- Example: Counseling is a **service**. It may help meet a need by giving a child a safe place to express his/her feelings- but counseling itself is not the **need**

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Needs and Underlying Needs

- Allows others to consider the message behind the behavior
- May be a reframe of a problem/concern

Instead of: Jane (child) acts out aggressively to others when angry, causing harm

Reframe: Jane would benefit from learning new coping skills to utilize when she is angry

Instead of: Susan (mom) uses inappropriate discipline methods

Reframe: Susan would benefit from additional understanding of Jane's mental health diagnosis, in order to learn new skills when addressing behaviors

- Properly written needs statements can easily become goals/objectives

Example: Within the next 6 months, Jane will utilize learned coping skills when angry, at least 3 times per week.....

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Needs and Underlying Needs

- Identifying them is hard work and requires persistence
- Effective case plans must address underlying needs – not just behaviors
- Ask the right questions:

What is it you hope to get out of _____?

How will _____ help you?

What does the client need help with that _____ will address

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