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Q&A

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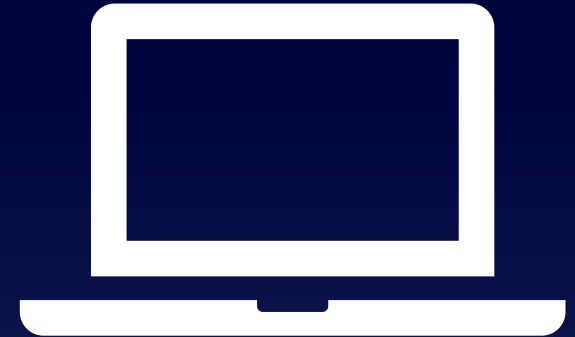


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Providing Culturally Sensitive Support to Families of Missing or Abducted Children

July 20, 2023 | Presented by:

Dr. Maegan Rides At The Door, LCPC



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The opinions expressed by presenters in their oral or written material are theirs alone, and do not necessarily represent those of the National Criminal Justice Training Center of Fox Valley Technical College or OJJDP.

AMBER Alert Training & Technical Assistance Program

Mission

To safely recover missing, endangered, or abducted children through the coordinated efforts of law enforcement, media, transportation, and other partners by using training and technology to enhance response capacities and capabilities and increase public participation.



Today's Presenter



Dr. Maegan Rides At The Door, LCPC

Learning Objectives

- ✓ Review the Ashlynnne Mike AMBER Alert in Indian Country Act.
- ✓ Update on Toolkit and Tabletop Resources.
- ✓ Identify resources available for State and Tribal AMBER Alert Coordinators and partners.



Presentation Pathway

- Identify
 - Identify cultural considerations and strategies while providing services for AI/AN families
- Enhance
 - Enhance our understanding of the impact of trauma on service provision today
- Assess
 - Assess our role as a helper and what we can do to aid the caregiver and families of Missing and/or Abducted Children.





Note

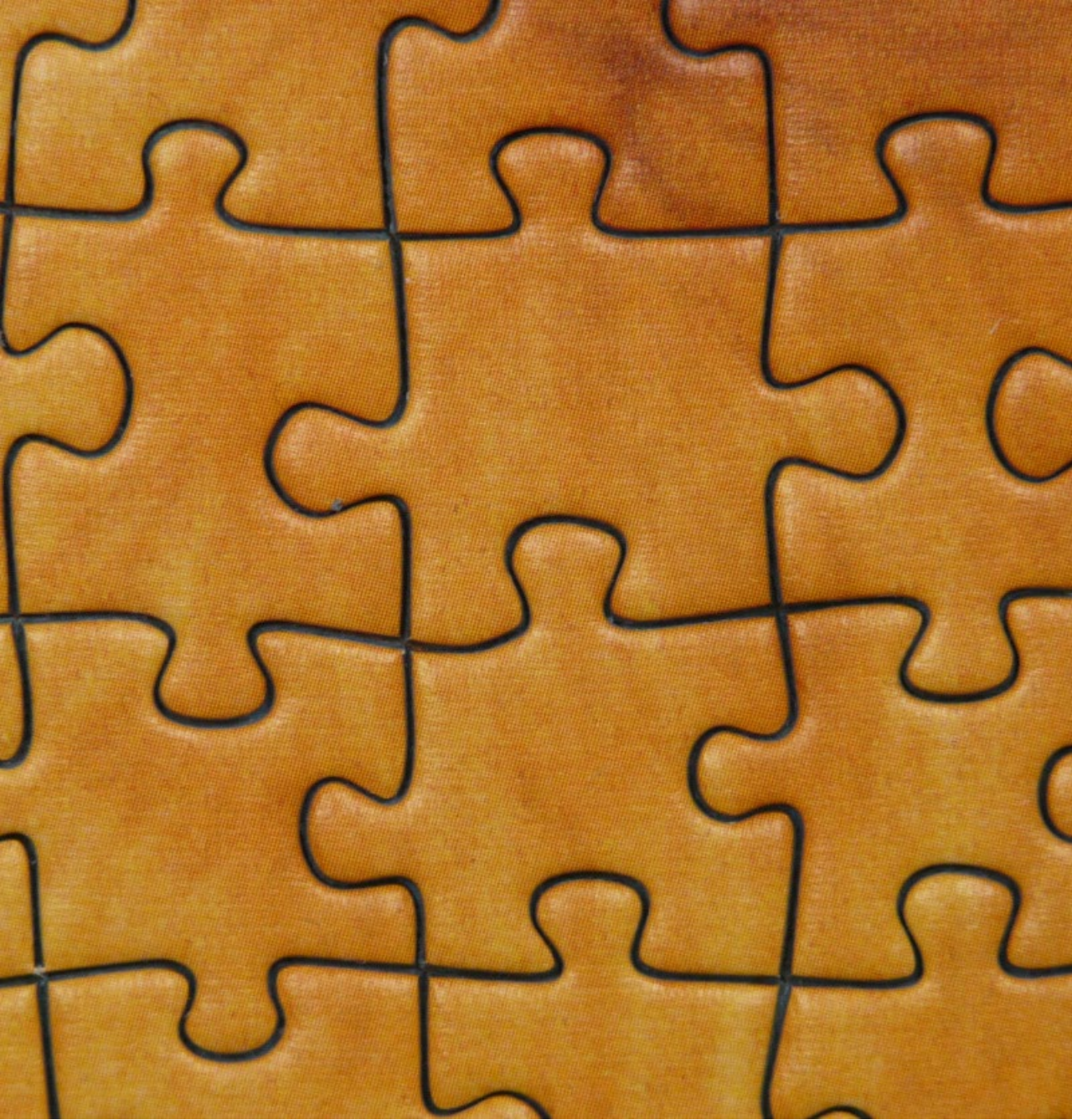
- Difficult to provide information on serving ALL American Indians
- Think of the information as considerations and contextual information to inform your understanding
- You may seek to ask individual questions depending on the relevancy and context

Traumatic Separation

Traumatic separation is a condition in which people develop trauma symptoms related to familial separation.

– National Child Traumatic Stress Network



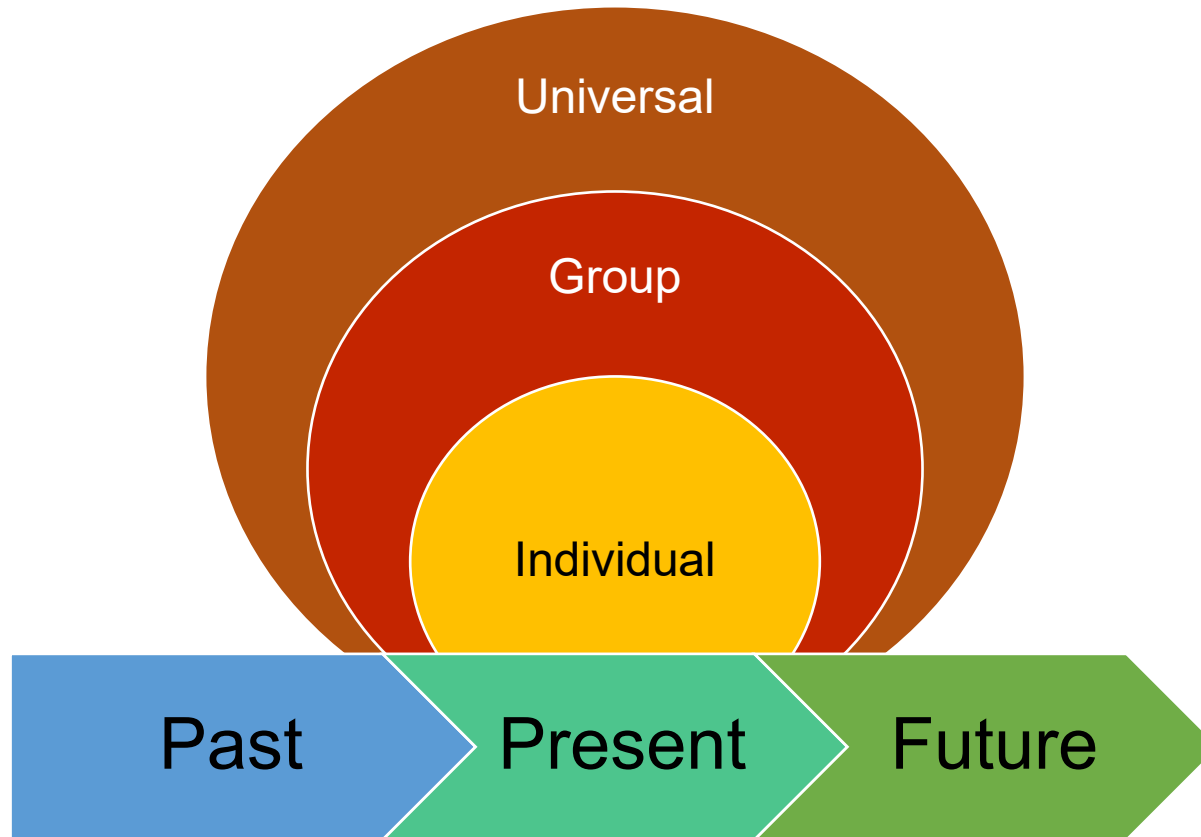


Trauma and Loss

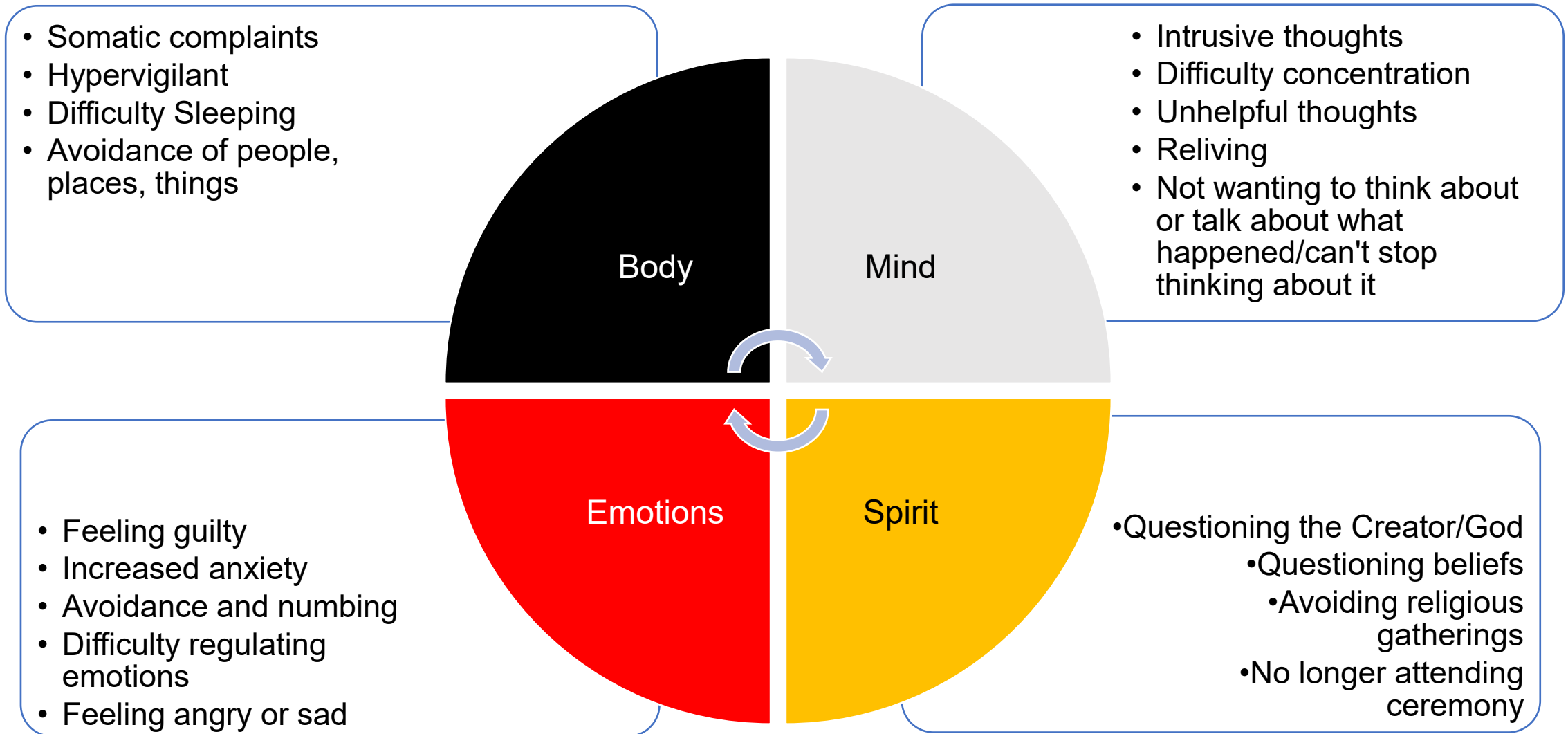
reminders: people, places, objects, situations, sights, smells, thoughts, or memories that are reminders of the person who is missing—for example, seeing a photo on the wall or walking by the child's room

Change reminders: situations, people, places, or things reminding the person of changes in his or her life resulting from the loss—for example, not having to give the child a ride to school or cook for them at dinner time

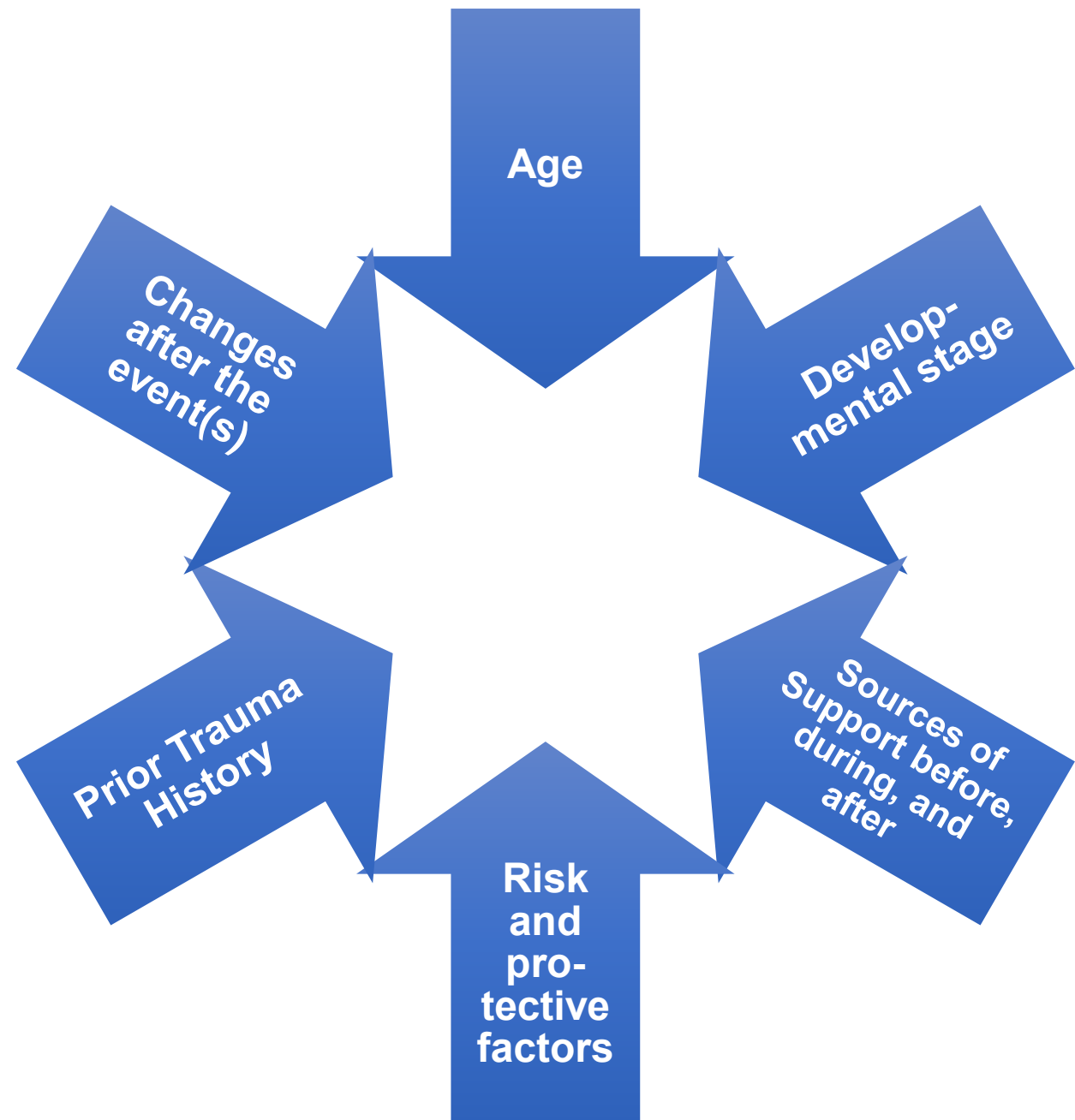
Culture is Multi-Dimensional



Holistic Reactions To Trauma



Remembering Diversity of Responses



Scientific Mindedness & Dynamic Sizing



Examples of Service Impacts

- Mistrust
- Services come from a Western perspective
- Cultural knowledge/competency
- Racism
- Fear of interacting with systems
- History of inactivity by the courts
- Transportation





What are other
impacts you can
think of?

Recovery

(adapted from Herman, 1992)

- Safety and stabilization
- Meaning-making
- Integration





What is Our Agenda?

- “I know what I want to find out, so I’m setting the agenda for this interview.”
- “I know what is best for this person.”
- “Let me see if I can get this person to accept my ideas.”
- “I don’t know much about this person’s point of view, so I need to encourage them to set the agenda.”
- “I don’t know what they are needing, Let’s see if I can understand their ideas.”

Building Knowledge and Skills

1. Understand “family” from American Indian perspective, utilize and ask about extended family
2. Know community stakeholders
3. Seek out community relationships so that you don't have to rely upon the family you are serving for all information
4. Ask if they have questions and clarify understanding because they may not interrupt you
5. Give an outline of how to access services if you give them a resource (when you walk in you will go to your left and they will ask you some questions and ask you to wait in the waiting room)
6. Accompany them (be present) if possible



Broadening Our Conceptualization

- What is the most important issues?
- How are they thinking about the issues?
- What are their concerns?
- How have they been dealing with it so far?
- What are barriers?
- How can I help you? Who else?
- What do you believe will help improve things?
- What would healing look like?





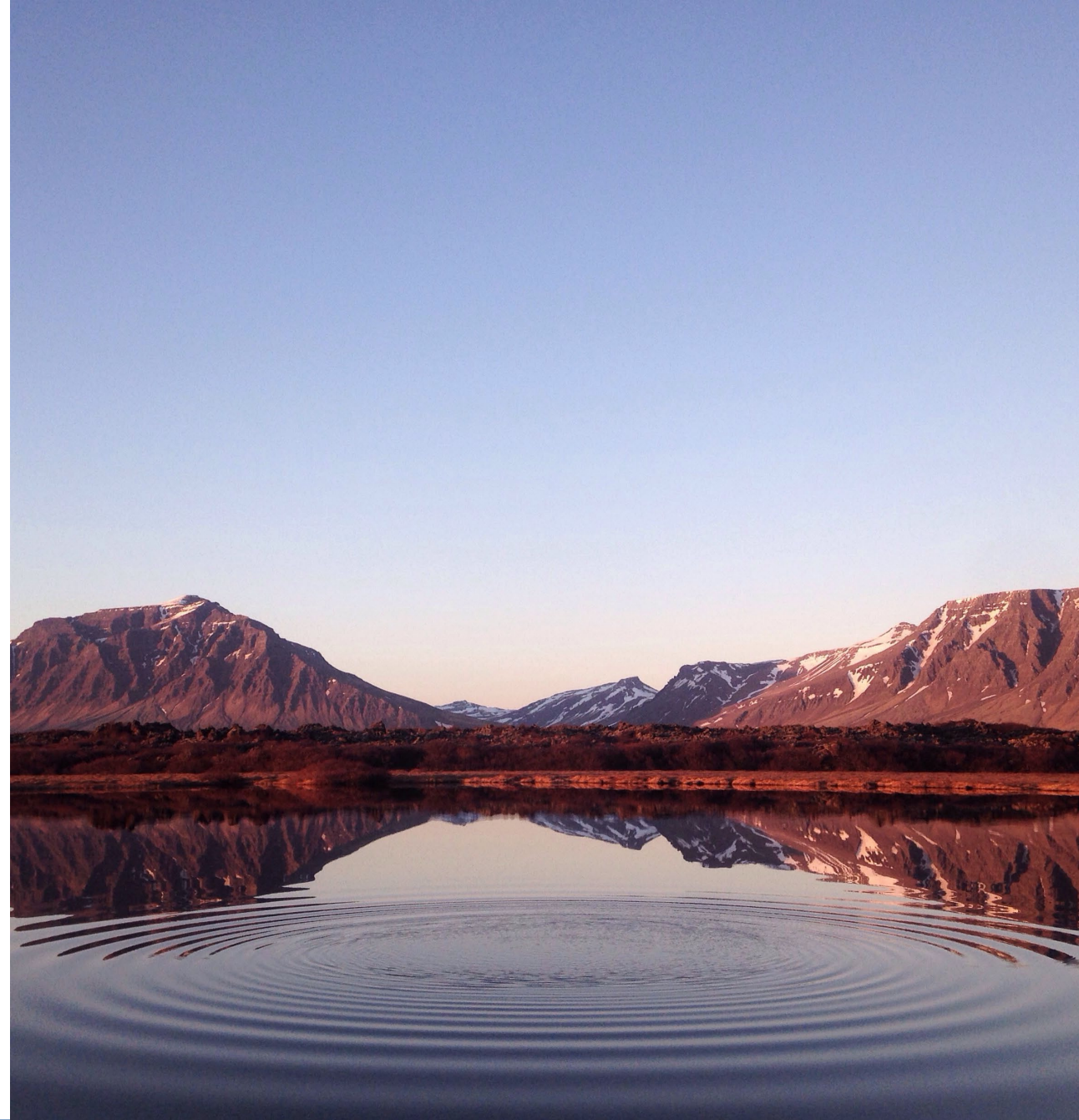
**Mistakes will be
made: rupture and
repair**



**It's difficult to heal in
the face of ongoing
cumulative grief and
losses.**

Last but not Least...

- It is okay to acknowledge when we don't know something
- Let those you serve be your guide
- You are a part of people's journey toward healing not responsible for all of it
- Reflect on your organization's overall connection to Tribal communities



Contact Information & Final Q&A



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Upcoming TTA Opportunities

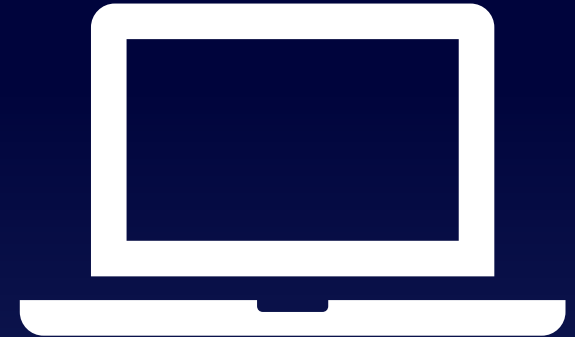
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August 24, 2023 | 9:00 – 10:00 AM CT

✓ *Preventing Child Abduction & Exploitation in Indian Country*

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