



Using Evidence-Supported Practices and Individualizing Interventions

Module 10 Glossary Terms

Collaborative evaluation: An approach that actively engages program stakeholders as members of the evaluation team (O’Sullivan, 2012, p. 529).

Crossover youth: A young person who has experienced maltreatment and has also engaged in delinquent behavior (Herz, Ryan, & Bilchik, 2010, p. 305) resulting in involvement with both the child welfare and juvenile justice systems.

Developmental assets: “Positive qualities that influence young people’s development, helping them become caring, responsible, and productive adults” (<https://www.search-institute.org>).

Empowerment: A process of increasing personal, interpersonal, or political power so that individuals can take action to improve their life situations (Gutierrez, 1990, p.4).

Evidence based practice: The selection and implementation of research supported interventions, a process that involves integrating critical evaluation of available research with service provider knowledge and experiences and client values.

Evidence-supported treatments (EST): Interventions tested by rigorous standards, and shown to be effective in treating specific conditions. Sometimes called empirically-supported treatments (APA Presidential Task Force on Evidence-Based Practice, 2006).

Fidelity: Degree to which an intervention is delivered as intended across different service providers and service users.

Informal mentor: A supportive non- parental adult from a young person’s pre- existing social network, such as a relative, neighbor, coach, or community member (Hurd & Zimmerman, 2014).

Meta-developmental skills: Abilities of people to drive their own development as a person.

Motivational approach: Engaging young people in change talk to motivate towards positive change.

Person-centered planning: Planning processes driven by the individual’s preferences and priorities.

Person-centered processes: Process that focuses on an individual's strengths and assets and is guided by that individual's goals, values, and preferences.

Personal agency: Making choices or decisions, acting intentionally or deliberately, formulating and following plans of action, or setting goals and pursuing them (Thoits, 2006, p. 309).

Positive youth development: Focusing "on actively promoting thriving and well-being across the life span" (Walker & Gowen, 2011, p. 7) and not placing primary attention on young people's deficits and problems.

Practice-based evidence: Using information gathered from service providers, service users, and family members to identify effective interventions, as well as areas for program or practice improvement and further research (Cross, Friesen, et al., 2011, p. 95).

Process outcomes: These refer to intervention outcomes for both service providers and young people that can be monitored as part of a process evaluation.

Program evaluation: Process of gathering information to determine whether a program's goals are being met (Patton, 2008).

Pro-social connections: Positive relationships that promote growth, and positive development.

Self-determination: A belief that people should be able to arrange their lives in accordance with their preferences (Gambrell, 2006, p.45). Self-determination involves people having real influence over the quality of their lives and involvement in making decisions that affect them.

Self-efficacy: A person's belief about his or her ability to perform certain behaviors that are likely to lead to expected outcomes.

Self-regulation: Voluntary management of one's own actions. (Karoly, 1993).

Theory of change: An explanation of how interventions work to produce desired outcomes.

Thriving: Being involved in healthy, positive relations with others and the community, and making culturally valued contributions to self, others, and the social environment. (Lerner, Brentano, Dowling, & Anderson, 2002, p. 15).

Youth-led evaluation: A collaborative process of gathering and analyzing data to determine whether youth-serving programs have met their goals with youth as central actors who make significant contributions (Sabo Flores, 2008).