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Professional Philosophy

There are certain philosophical assumptions that serve as a basis for my professional services, goals and objectives. I believe that each client is unique, of special worth, and must be assessed and treated with consideration to their particular life experiences. I believe in the importance of knowing and understanding the challenges and issues a child or family have faced in her, his or their life, and believe that this knowledge helps me to work with the child and family with a heightened level of compassion, hope, understanding and tolerance. I believe the processes of encouragement and respect are the primary processes in personal, familial and organizational change. These beliefs are the foundation for the following three principles of my professional philosophy.

RESPECT FOR UNIQUENESS. I recognize and honor the belief that, in addition to sharing common attributes with others, each person and each family is unique. The selection of treatment methods to be used in assisting each treatment client is based on a respect for and appreciation of the unique qualities of that client and the familial, social, cultural and spiritual context in which she, he or they live and have grown up. The experiencing of respect for this uniqueness in the interactions between myself and these clients is an essential component of effective treatment. I am responsible for modeling and implementing this respectful interaction in my work with colleagues and clients.

RESPONSIBILITY AND EMPOWERMENT. My philosophy is based on the belief that people are responsible for their behavior and for the consequences of their behavior, and that people are most healthy when they have control over the events in their life. The experiencing of responsibility and empowerment in interactions with me is an essential component of effective treatment.

CONSISTENCY AND INTEGRATION OF CARE. Consistency and integration of care creates predictability, security and safety. This leads to an environment in which persons are more likely to choose new behaviors in place of habitual ones. Collaboration between treatment providers is essential in order to create this consistency and integration of care.

