



Blending Trauma Informed Care & Behavior Intervention Models

Arrow Child & Family Ministries operates three residential programs for teens in Maryland and Texas. The programs utilize Trust-Based Relational Intervention (TBRI), Positive-Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) and Professional Crisis Management (PCM) in all three milieus.

COMMON MYTHS

1. Behavior intervention conflicts with being trauma informed.
2. Level systems are always bad.
3. Being trauma-informed means no consequences for behavior.
4. You must pick between standardizing everything or individualizing everything.
5. Trauma models and Behavior Intervention models have divergent goals.
6. Reinforcers are a form of classical or operant conditioning.

RESOLUTIONS

1. Identify the common elements of models and focus on them in staff training to create a cohesive culture in treatment.
2. Behavioral data, when used for the purpose of reflecting progress back to the client can be helpful, as long as it is not being used as a tool for behavioral control.
3. All approaches involve positive and negative consequences.
4. All the systems include broad frameworks and individualized approaches.
5. Safety and predictability are key to each to allow treatment to happen. Felt safety first, then treatment, growth and healing.
6. Reinforcers – concretizes natural and logical consequences. They move from more artificial to more natural consequences.

CONSIDERATIONS

1. How can training be used as an ongoing part of treatment structure, after its initial role to start learning?
2. How can coaching, observation, and feedback be part of the routine, reinforcing what has been trained?
3. How can the mileu be structured and maintained in a way that supported the integrated treatment model?
4. How do procedures and documentation support and remain consistent with the integrated treatment model?
5. How can setting changes be used effectively?
6. How does the supervision and support of staff further their development into excellent practitioners of the integrated treatment model?