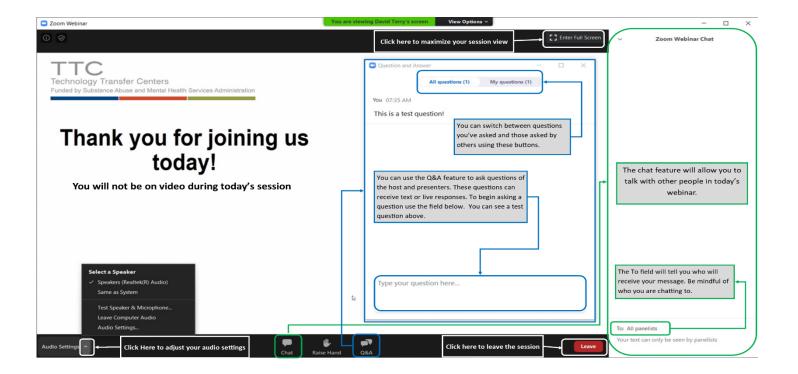
## **The Zoom Interface**



All attendees are muted. Today's session will be recorded.

# The Family Experience

Valerie Ferri, MSW, MPH, LSW Family Training and Advocacy Center

&

Michelle Zechner, PhD, LSW, CPRP

Rutgers, SHP, Dept. of Psychiatric Rehabilitation & Counseling Professions

June 7, 2021

Northeast and Caribbean (HHS Region 2)



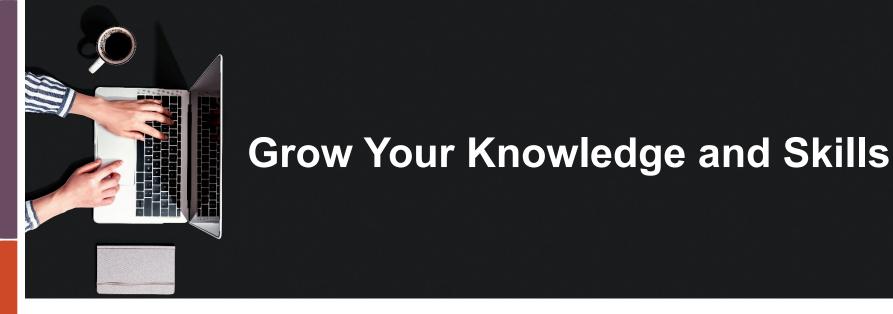
## About Us ...

The Northeast and Caribbean MHTTC received 5 years of funding to (2018 – 2023):

- Enhance capacity of behavioral health workforce to deliver evidence-based and promising practices to individuals with mental illnesses.
- Address full continuum of services spanning mental illness prevention, treatment, and recovery supports.
- Train related workforces (police/first responders, primary care providers, vocational services, etc.) to provide effective services to people with mental illnesses.

#### Supplemental funding to:

- Support school teachers and staff to address student mental health
- Support healthcare providers in wellness and self-care activities



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https://bit.ly/2mpmpMb

## We Want Your Feedback!

Our funding comes from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), which requires us to evaluate our services. We appreciate your honest, ANONYMOUS feedback about this event, which will provide information to SAMHSA, AND assist us in planning future meetings and programs.

Feedback about this training will assist us in developing future trainings that are relevant to your professional needs. Therefore, your feedback counts!

# **Video Recording Information**

#### Please Note:

We will be recording this webinar and posting it to our website along with the presentation slides and any relevant resources.

## Disclaimer

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At the time of this presentation, Tom Coderre served as Acting Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use at SAMHSA. The opinions expressed herein are the views of the speakers, and do not reflect the official position of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), or SAMHSA. No official support or endorsement of DHHS, SAMHSA, for the opinions described in this presentation is intended or should be inferred.

This work is supported by grant H79SM081783 from the DHHS, SAMHSA.

# Your Interactions With Us

#### **Question and Answers**

- Q & A will occur at the end of the call.
- Type your questions in the Q & A feature in Zoom located on the task bar (hover over task bar).
- Note: your question is visible to all participants.

#### **Chat and Polls**

- Throughout the webinar, we will be asking for your input.
- Use the Chat or Poll features in Zoom located on the task bar.
- You can control who can see your chat comments.

The MHTTC Network uses affirming, respectful and recovery-oriented language in all activities. That language is:

STRENGTHS-BASED AND HOPEFUL

INCLUSIVE AND ACCEPTING OF DIVERSE CULTURES, GENDERS, PERSPECTIVES, AND EXPERIENCES NON-JUDGMENTAL AND AVOIDING ASSUMPTIONS

INVITING TO INDIVIDUALS

OWN JOURNEYS

PERSON-FIRST AND

FREE OF LABELS

RESPECTFUL, CLEAR AND UNDERSTANDABLE

CONSISTENT WITH

OUR ACTIONS,

POLICIES, AND PRODUCTS

#### HEALING-CENTERED AND TRAUMA-RESPONSIVE

Adapted from: https://mhcc.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/Recovery-Oriented-Language-Guide\_2019ed\_v1\_20190809-Web.pdf

## **Our Presenters**





Michelle Zechner, PhD, LSW, CPRP

Valerie Ferri, MSW, MPH, LSW

## Objectives

Familiarize providers with the perspective of family members of people with mental illness

Define family, types of support, experiences and strengths of family members of people with mental illness

# How are Family Members Perceived?

• Enter a few words that describe your thoughts about family members of people with mental illness at this location:

www.menti.com

Code will be in the chat

## **Family Members**

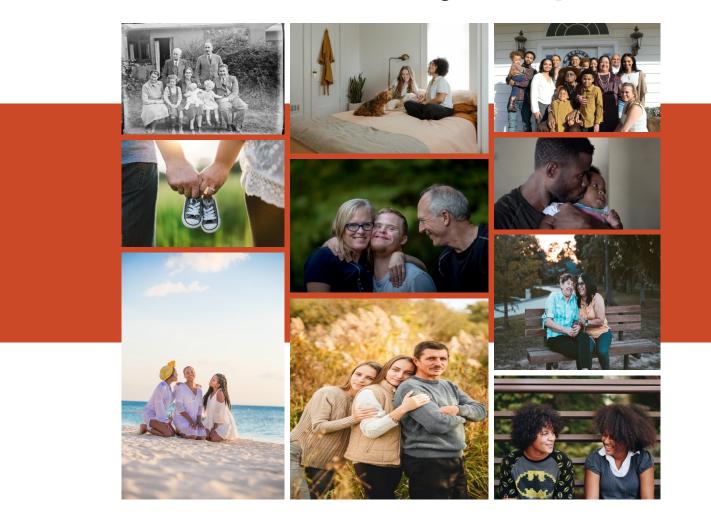
Definition: A person or people that a client identifies as part of their support system. This could be a bloodrelative, related by marriage, friend, peer or neighbor.





## Word Cloud

## **Overview of Family Experiences**





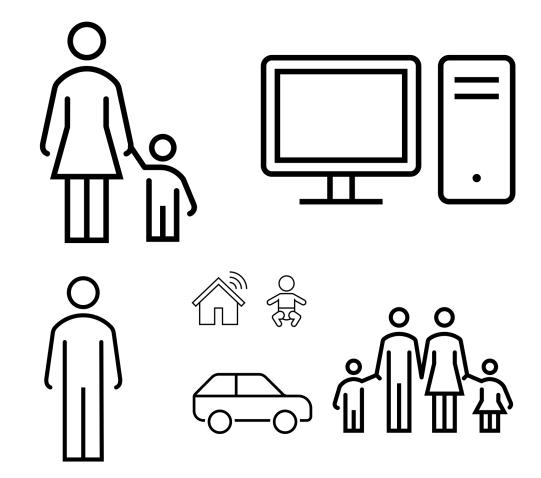
### Family Examples

## Family Considerations

- Strengths
- Finances
- Culture
- Transportation
- Supports



Family Experience by Age, Role, Resources



## Chat question

Think of a family that stands out in your mind. What are 1 or 2 things that influenced their experience?

# What do we know about Families?

Middle - Aged Females

Recipients between 18-39

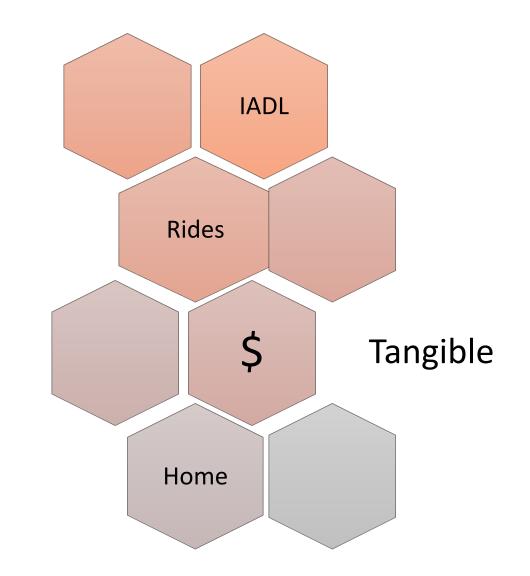
Provide ~ 32 hrs/per week

Half live together

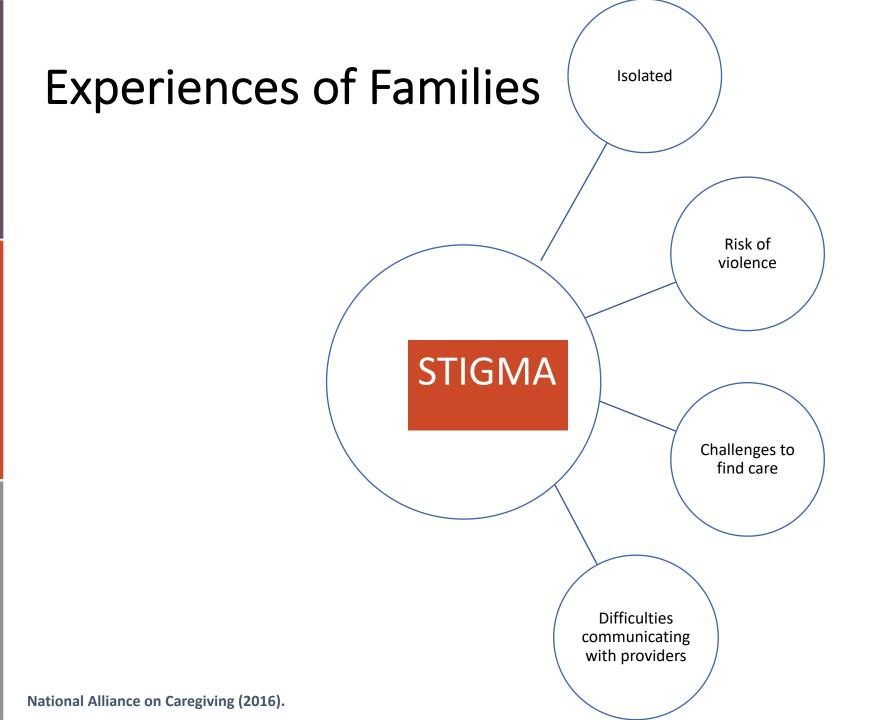
**Financial support** 

National Alliance on Caregiving (2016).

## Type of Supports Provided



Intangible

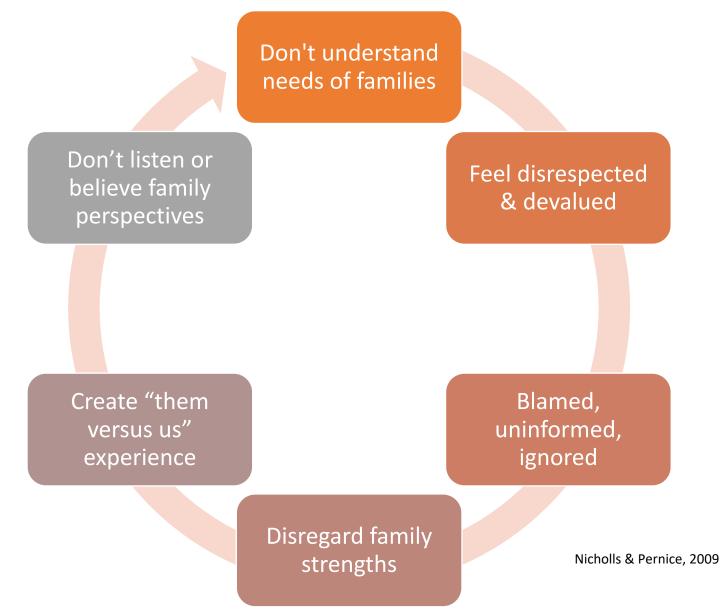


## Activity

Take a moment to think of a time you supported someone in your family through illness or other difficulty.

- 1.What was challenging
- 2. What was helpful
- 3. What strengths did you bring?

## Family Perspective About MH Providers



## Vignette #1

Mary's 34 year old son Danny, has recently been hospitalized after a manic episode where he quit his job, bought a new car, and accidentally lit a fire at home. Mary knows what hospital Danny has been involuntarily committed to, however, when she calls, she can't get anyone to listen to her.

She explains to the social worker that she knows Danny is there, and that he will sign a release if he is asked to do so.

Mary tries to tell the SW that generics have not helped in the past, and Clozaril has. She also shares that her son was stable for several years, but was recently diagnosed with diabetes, and it seems that the diabetes medication worsened his menta health. The social worker simply said she couldn't talk with Mary and hung up the phone.

## Debrief

- What emotions might Mary be experiencing in this situation?
- What strengths can you identify that Mary has?
- What resources does Mary have?
- What concerns did you have about this situation?
- How might you have handled this differently?
- How might a different approach impact Danny?

## **Practice Opportunity**

The next time you interact with a family member of someone with an illness, pause and ask yourself : "What emotions is this person experiencing"?; "What strengths does this person have in this situation"?



## Questions?





### Families feel isolated, stressed & unheard

Families offer resources and support

Experience is influenced by many things

Address emotional experience & strengths

## Resources

- National Alliance on Mental Illness <u>www.nami.org</u>
- National Family Support Technical Assistance Center <u>https://www.nfstac.org/</u>
- National Caregiver Alliance <a href="https://www.caregiving.org/">https://www.caregiving.org/</a>
- Mental Health America <u>https://www.mhanational.org/</u>
- State/Local Behavioral Health Authorities

## References

- Lefley, H. P. (2009). Family psychoeducation for serious mental illness. Oxford University Press.
- National Alliance on Caregiving (2016). On Pins and Needles: Caregivers of Adults with Mental Illness. Retrieved from: <u>http://www.caregiving.org</u>
- Nicholls, E., & Pernice, R. (2009). Perceptions of the relationship between mental health professionals and family caregivers: Has there been any change?. *Issues in Mental Health Nursing*, *30*(8), 474-481.
- Spaniol, L., Zipple, A., Marsh, D. & Finley, L. (2000). The Role of the Family in Psychiatric Rehabilitation: A Workbook. Center for Psychiatric Rehabilitation: Boston University

### **Question and Answer**

# **Evaluation Information**

The MHTTC Network is funded through SAMHSA to provide this training. As part of receiving this funding we are required to submit data related to the quality of this event.

At the end of today's training please take a moment to complete a **brief** survey about today's training.



https://bit.ly/2S92xgE

## **Connect With Us!**

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Northeast and Caribbean (HHS Region 2)

Mental Health Technology Transfer Center Network
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