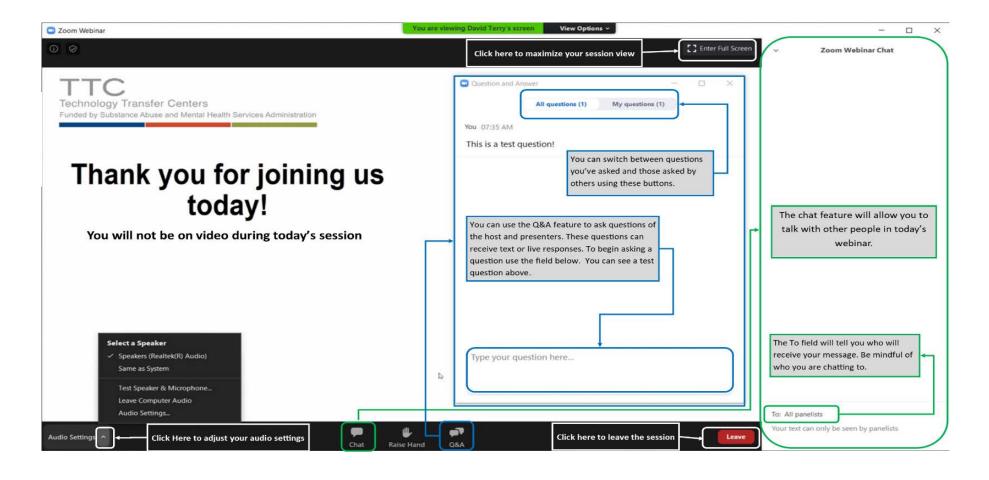
The Zoom Interface



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

Flourishing Strategies: Outside of the Box

Michelle Zechner, PhD, LSW, CPRP Rutgers, School of Health Professions 3/15/22





About Us

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

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



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https://bit.ly/3IU0xF4

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, Miriam Delphin-Rittmon served as 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.

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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

HEALING-CENTERED AND TRAUMA-RESPONSIVE

INVITING TO INDIVIDUALS PARTICIPATING IN THEIR OWN JOURNEYS

PERSON-FIRST AND FREE OF LABELS

NON-JUDGMENTAL AND AVOIDING ASSUMPTIONS

RESPECTFUL, CLEAR AND UNDERSTANDABLE

CONSISTENT WITH OUR ACTIONS, POLICIES, AND PRODUCTS

Our Presenter:



Michelle Zechner, PhD, LSW, CPRP

Objectives

- Discuss connections between creativity and flourishing
- Explore benefits of creative thinking
- Identify strategies for outside of the box flourishing





Creativity & Flourishing

Creativity

"Creativity is the act of turning new and imaginative ideas into reality. Creativity is characterized by the ability to perceive the world in new ways, to find hidden patterns, to make connections between seemingly unrelated phenomena, and to generate solutions.

Creativity involves two processes: thinking, then producing."

Linda Naiman

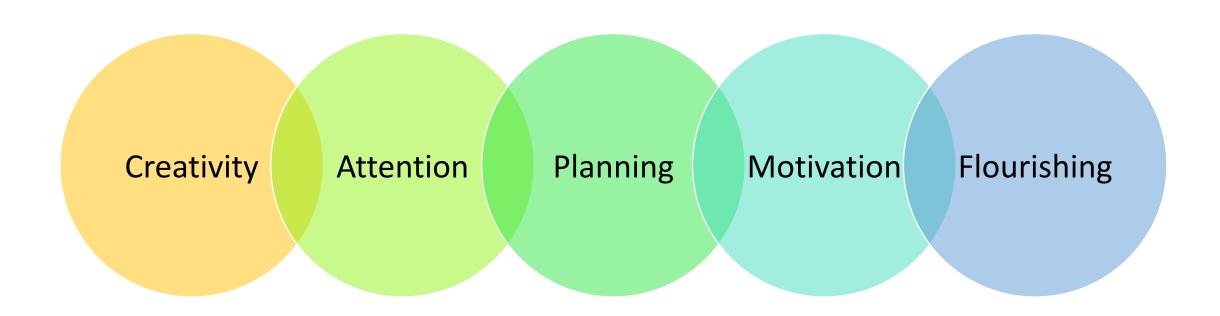


Everyday Creativity Helps

- Improves mood
- Improves problem-solving
- Supports resilience
- Immune function



Creativity ---> Flourishing





Benefits of Creativity



- Helping colleagues
- Birthday parades
- Zoom celebrations



Lashua et al., 2020; Hochschild, 1994



Creativity Myths



Science Supports Creative Actions & Flourishing

- Baking Bread
- Making Music
- Journaling
- Drawing

Creativity Starts with Your Thoughts

- Welcome challenges
- Normalize the struggle
- Take breaks
- Become an outsider
- Revisit childhood





Being More Creative

- Awareness/noticing
- Surprise yourself (try something new)
- Daydream
- Reflection





Creativity at Work

- Connect and combine ideas
- Challenge assumptions
- Go beyond the first right answer
- Open to ambiguity

Flourishing Movements

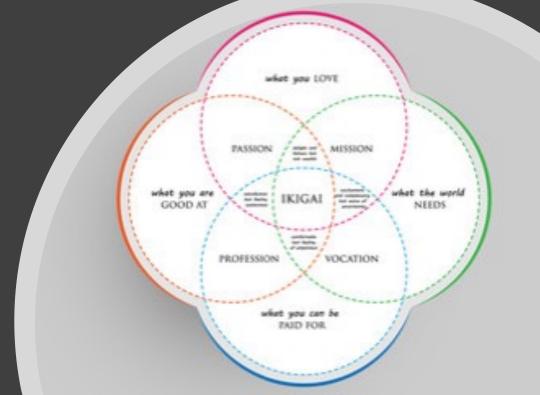
- Stretching
- Walking
- Dancing
- Shaking
- Humming
- Other ideas?



Purpose & Meaning

- Reflection
- Self-compassion
- Intentional reminders





Play





Challenges to Creative Thought & Actions

- Burnout
- Exhaustion
- Grief

Sometimes 'outside the box' means rest, replenishment and self-compassion



External Supports

- Change up your routine
- Use a funky pen
- Music
- Desk toys



Doing something creative today helps you flourish tomorrow

Tamlin Conner



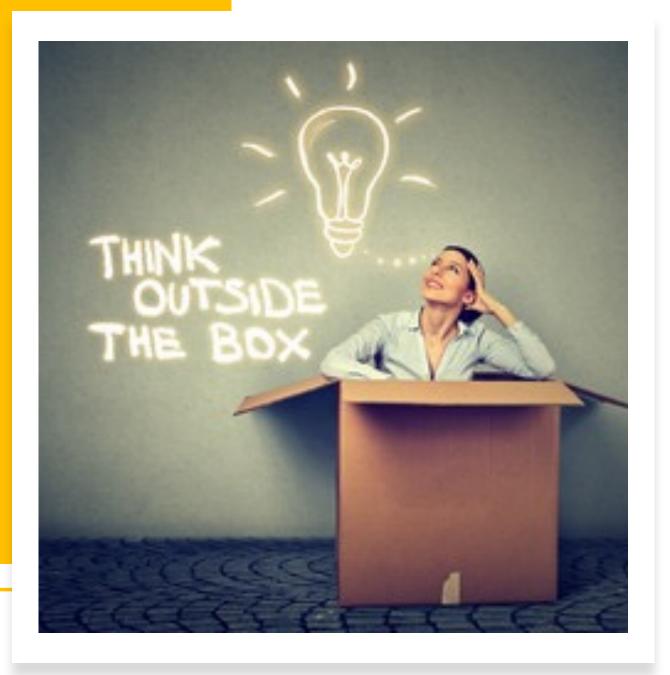
Summary

Creative thinking and actions support health and flourishing

We can all be creative in our thoughts and actions

Using creativity at work can support problemsolving and increase our work satisfaction

Strategies to increase creativity for flourishing include movement, purpose and meaning, play and reminders



Practice Opportunity

How can you build one everyday creative action into your work-life?

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.





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Flourishing at Work: A Plan for Helping Professionals

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Resources

- Doing Something Creative Can Boost Your Well-Being
 https://greatergood.berkeley.edu/article/item/doing_something_creative_can_boost_your_well_being
- A Crash Course in Creativity: Tina Seelig at TEXxStanford https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gyM6rx69iqg&t=460s
- Why Play Should be a Part of Every Adult's Life
 https://www.creativitypost.com/article/why_play_should_be_a_priority for every adults life

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