

Person-First Language

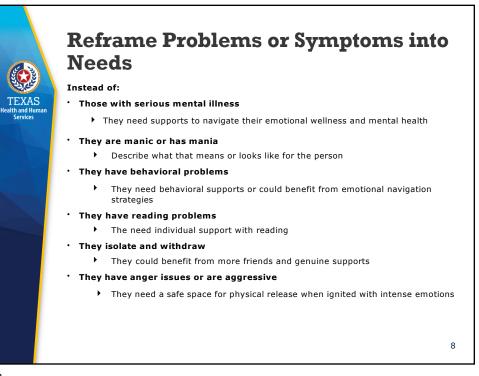


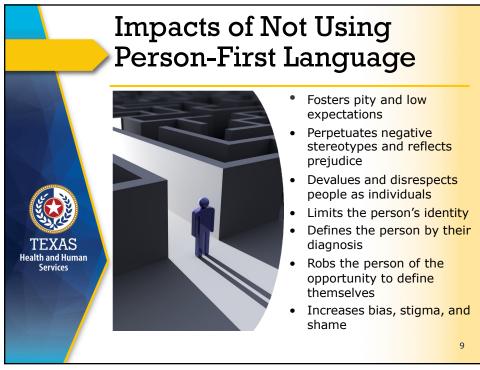


Examples of Diagnosis- or Deficit-First Language vs. Person-First Language

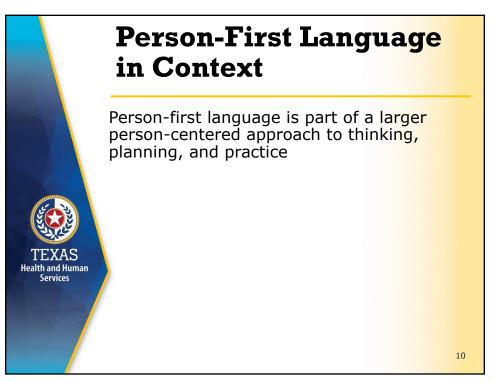


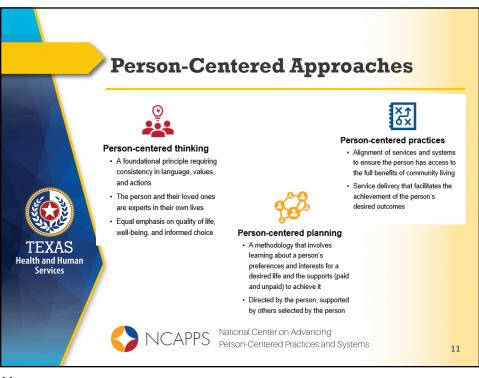
Diagnosis or Deficit-First	Person-First
Addict	Person with a substance use disorder, person in recovery
High (or low)-functioning	Specifically describe what's going on for the person
They are ADHD or hyperactive	They are working with ADHD or hyperactivity
Frequent flyer	Uses our services when they need to
People are suicidal or having suicidal ideation	People impacted by suicide or experiencing thoughts of suicide
She committed suicide	Death by suicide, killed themself
He is severely mentally ill	He has a mental health diagnosis
Suffers with, suffers from	Person with, who has a diagnosis of
Non-compliant, non-adherent	Chooses not to because

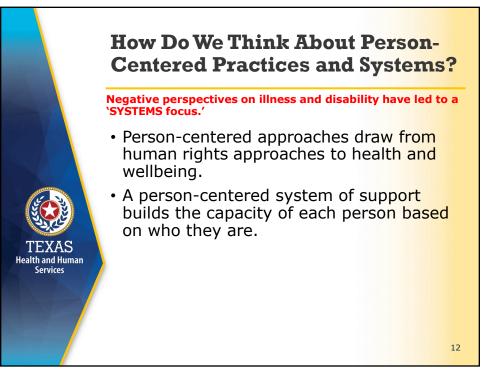












Trauma/Recovery Model		
Non-Person-Centered	Person-Centered	
Assumes mental health problems are biologi based	cally Assumes that mental health problems are co and not fully understood; environmental, developmental, cultural and other factors are major contributors	
What's wrong with you?	What happened to you?	
Focus on illness, weaknesses	Focus on wellness, strengths	
Emphasis on the brain in isolation	Emphasis on the person with experiences and interests	
Recovery means symptom reduction	Recovery means a full life	
Maladaptive or unhealthy behaviors viewed a defiant	as Maladaptive or unhealthy behaviors viewed a coping attempts	
Medications are central to symptom reduction	Medication is seen as equally important to psychosocial and other supports (people, pla purpose) for recovery	
People are encouraged to comply with treatr interventions	nent People are empowered to take charge of their recovery	
The helper is the expert and the client is dependent on the helpers' expertise	The client is the expert and the helper is a co	



