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Sexual Assault Support Group Facilitator Skill Building Series: Pre-Screening

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Webinar Overview

- Introduction
- Why Pre-Screen?
- Who Should Screen Participants?
- A Proactive, Positive Approach
- Things to Discover in the Interview
- When you need to screen out
- Q and A

Introduction

- Pre-screening in closed support groups
- A little about me
- A little about you...by poll
- Use the Q and A box

Why Pre-Screen?

- Help ensure group is best fit for participant
- Help ensure physical and emotional safety of all participants
- Determine where each member is in the healing process

Why, Continued

- Assess the participant's goals and objectives for being in the group
- Assess potential issues that the participant may be bringing with them
- Help ensure group compatibility

Why, Cont.

- To discuss issues of confidentiality.
- To ensure that members who know each other are not placed in the same group.

Who Should Screen?

- Best if done by person/people facilitating the group
- Orientation sessions are used by many programs

A Positive, Proactive Approach

- A chance to decide together in group is a good fit for the participant.
- Pros and cons of using a form.
- Attempt to screen *in* rather than screen *out*
- Screening continues through entire group

Things to Discover in the Interview

- Learn more about the person
- Assess a potential member's readiness
- Screen for individuals with addictions
- Screen for offender behavior

Interview, Continued

- Screen for signs of resistance, hostility or aggressive behavior
- Assess both healthy and unhealthy coping mechanisms
- Screen for signs of behavioral and mental health issues

Interview, Continued

- Assess safety factors for each individual
- Screen to prevent the admission of family members into the same group
- In a non-offending parent group screen for those who are supportive of their children vs. those who are not.

Interview, Continued

- Screen in a style that matches the population being served or in a culturally competent manner
- Screen for age compatibility and developmentally appropriate age levels

When You Need to Screen Out

- Keep Referrals Ready
- Use Creative Solutions to Meet Needs
- Help person make an informed choice

Q and A

- Questions, Comments and Sharing

Thank you!

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