TRAUMA-INFORMED BEST PRACTICES ACTIVITIES



Activity 7.5

Let's HEAL

Objective:

 Practice the HEAL (Have a positive experience, Enrich it, Absorb it, Link positive and negative material) Technique.

Steps:

- 1. Explain that the brain reacts stronger to negative experiences. The purpose of the HEAL Technique is to create a brain that is responsive to positive materials.
- 2. H Invite the participants to "take in the good" by thinking of a positive experience in their lives (i.e. a place, an event, etc.)
 - Share your own positive experience as an example.
- 3. E Next, apply intention to that thought and sustain it.
- 4. A Next, heighten it by prolonging and intensifying the feeling.
- 5. L Finally, practice keeping the positive experience more prominently in your thoughts.
- 6. Discuss:
 - This technique is used to change our brains from reactive (negative) to responsive (positive).
 - This is a technique you and your students can practice and, with repetition, it can become second nature through the process of neuroplasticity.