

ORGANIZATIONAL SELF-ASSESSMENT: ADOPTION OF TRAUMA-INFORMED CARE

1. Early Screening and Comprehensive Assessment of Trauma

Performance Standards:

A. The initial (first encounter with the agency) intake, assessment and documentation process includes questions designed to sensitively and respectfully explore prior (including early childhood) and current trauma related experiences. The information gathering process enables a person to reveal personal histories and experiences at their own pace and in their own way. Exploration of trauma related experiences is done within a calm, safe, secure, and supportive setting by caring, interested, and skilled practitioners; it is never confrontational, coercive or demanding.

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B. The organization recognizes that some consumers may not be able or willing to reveal traumatic life experiences early on in the intake/assessment process, given the sensitive nature of the topic. Procedures are in place to re-engage consumers and re-assess the issues related to trauma, for example during service plan review meetings, when new information is shared by other sources, when the consumer self-reports such information, or when warning signs are observed that are typically associated with trauma.

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C. The screening and assessment process is sufficiently thorough and focused on trauma related issues to allow for the determination of a diagnosis associated with trauma (e.g. PTSD). The ongoing assessment process allows for the gathering of new trauma related information leading to potential changes in diagnosis as well as appropriate treatment objectives, goals, and services.

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D. Early screening and assessment process is designed to promote shared decision-making between the consumer and the provider related to the selection of optimal services. The process involves identifying trauma related needs, strengths, and available services.

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Comments on Domain 1: _____

