### Words Matter: The Transformative Power of Language for Empowering Care

March 26, 2024



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### Our Speakers



Seth Eisenberg

Chief Executive Officer

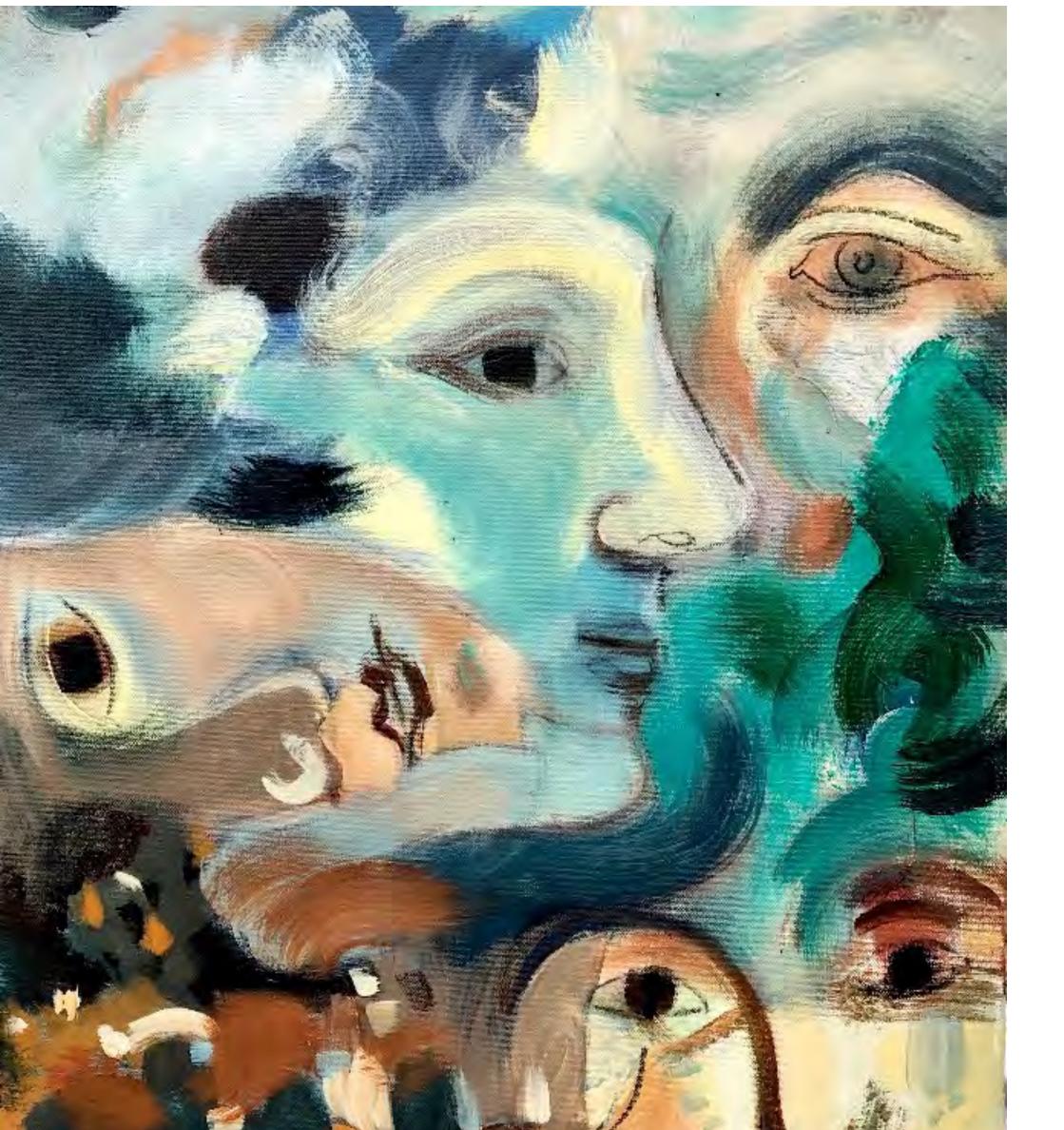
Purpose Built Families Foundation



Rachel Marmor

Chief Wellness Officer

Purpose Built Families Foundation





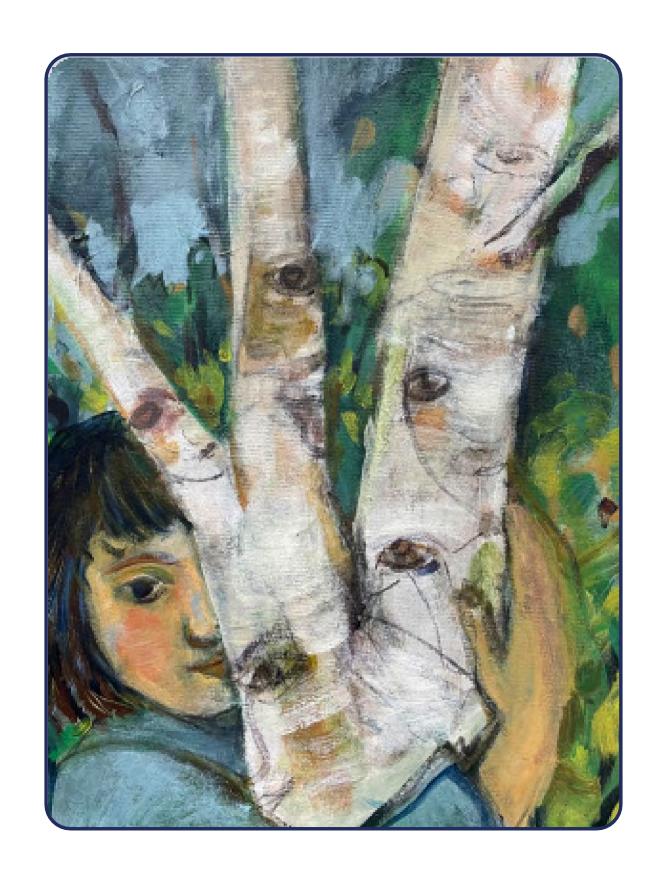
For Presentation by Certified PAIRS Facilitators. More at www.PAIRS4Me.com.

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# www.MyPAIRSCoach.com

## Why PAIRS?



Addresses foundation of human connection.

Practical, proven, curriculum-driven.

Extensively researched, strengthens **50** competencies.

Highly experiential education model.

Comprehensive holistic approach.

Recognized best practice.

**15** Relationshipbuilding skills.

Rigorous ethical standards.

Quality assurance **45** years.

Focused on emotions, behaviors, attitudes.





### Mission and Vision

To teach those attitudes, emotional understandings, and behaviors that nurture and sustain healthy relationships.







## **Essential** Relationship Skills

0

Communication

2

Conflict Resolution

3

**Emotional Connection** 







### **Definition** of Neurosis

An obsolete response to an obsolete situation.



## Triune Brain

With appreciation to Dr. Paul Maclean

- 1. Primitive, Visceral, Survival Brain ("Am I safe? Will I survive?")
- 2. Limbic, Emotional System ("Will it be painful or pleasurable?)
- 3. Neo-Cortex, Cognition ("Is it logical, rational, reasonable?)





### **The Triune Brain**

- Neo-Cortex/Cognition: Coldly Intellectual And Analytical Seat Of Mental Acuity And Rational Judgment -- Is it logical? Is it reasonable?
- Limbic/Emotion: Warm-Blooded, Mammalian, Bonding, Nurturing, Playful, Communicates in Sound,
   Seat Of Emotions And Emotional Memory -- Is it pleasurable? Is it painful?
- Visceral/Survival: Cold-Blooded, Most Primitive Reflexively Reactive, Territorial, Instinctive Seat Of Automatic Behavior -- Is it safe? Will I survive?

### Triune Brain: Three independent neural brain systems:

- Visceral Brain: Survival/Security Consciousness
   Registers Life or Death Responses: Rage, Terror, Agony
- Limbic System: Feeling Consciousness
   Registers Emotional Responses: Anger, Hurt, Fear, Pleasure, Love
- 3. Neocortex: Thinking Consciousness
  Seat of the Rational Mind
  Stores Attitudes & Beliefs
  Governs Behavior Patterns
  "How we think and act" is programmed in the Neocortex





### PAIN

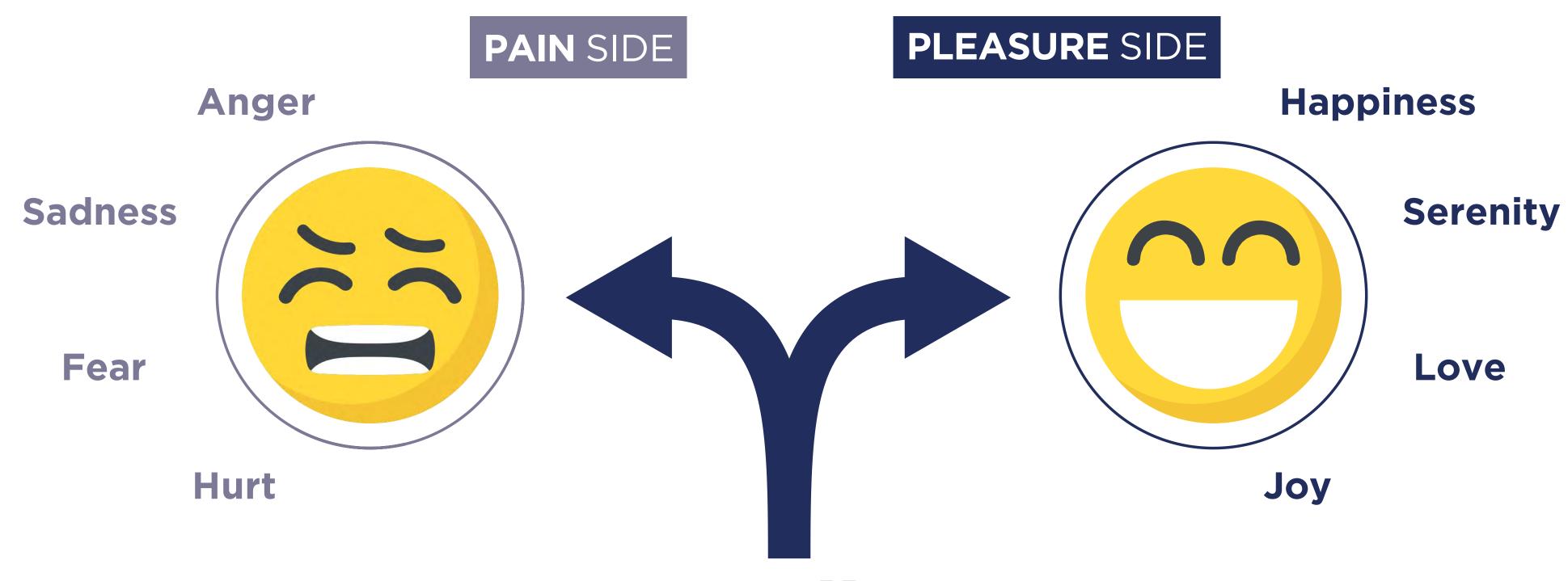


### **PLEASURE**









Bonding

**Understanding/Communication** 





# PAIN SIDE **DIS-EASE, DISTRESS, DISTRUST UNHAPPINESS PAIN DANGER** FEAR/ANGER



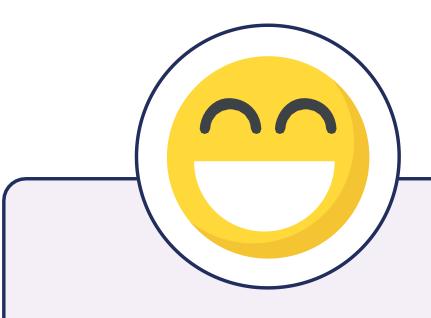




# SYMPTOMS OF UNHAPPINESS



## SIGNS OF HAPPINESS



HEALTH, ENERGY,
WELL BEING, FLEXIBILITY,
CREATIVITY, OPENNESS,
SHARING, PERSONAL
RESPONSIBILITY,
CAPACITY FOR INTIMACY,
RESPECT FOR SELF







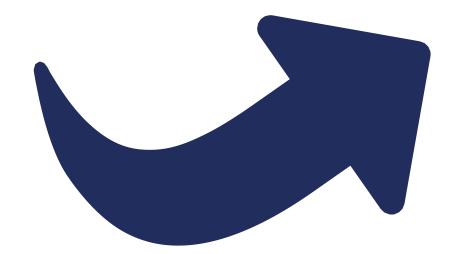
PAIN
DANGER
FEAR/ANGER

I am not entitled.
I am not loveable.
I am not good enough.
I must hide/pretend.

Air - Food - Water - Shelter

### **Bonding**

The combination of emotional and physical connection with another human being.



PLEASURE DESIRE LOVE

I exist/need.
I am entitled.
I am loveable.
I am good enough.





ANTICIPATE PAIN

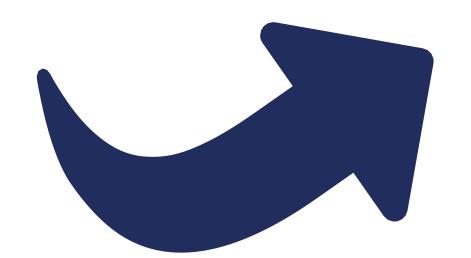
AVOID

FEELINGS
OF FEAR,
DANGER, AND ANGER.

Air - Food - Water - Shelter

**Bonding** 

The Logic of Love and Emotion



ANTICIPATE PLEASURE



FEELINGS OF DESIRE AND LOVE.





## Bonding (or Connecting)

New born infants need **physical** closeness and emotional contact with others.

This need for bonding continues throughout life.

When we don't have it, symptoms of deprivation develop.







### Fulfilling Our Needs

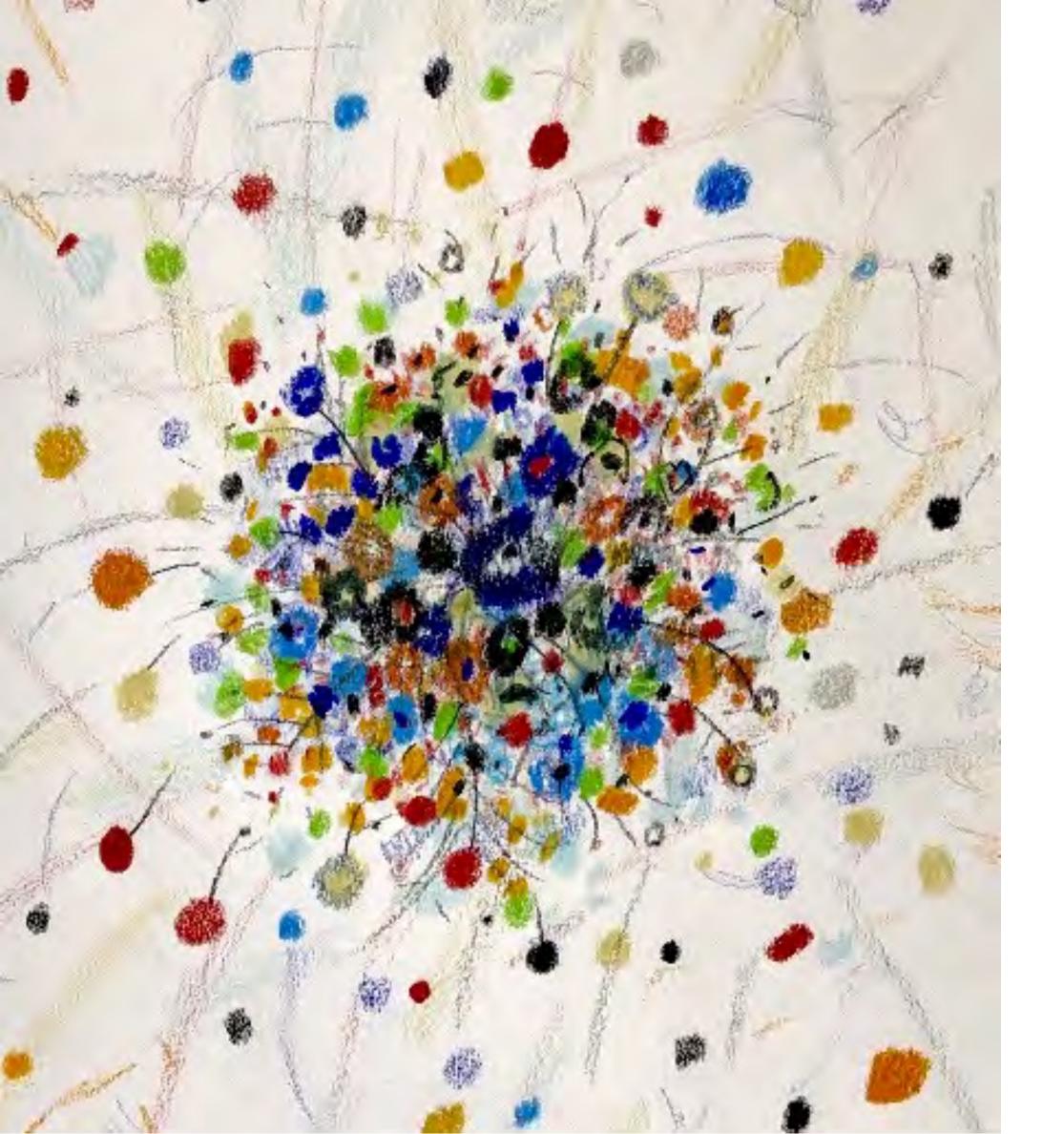


Our needs for **bonding** are met through our relationships with others: friends, siblings, parents, teachers, etc.

When **relationships** breakdown, our ability to fulfill our need to connect also breaks down.







# Unit Two Communication Styles



## **Aspects of Communication**

When we're upset with others, each of us tends to react – or overreact – in one of four negative ways.

These ways are known as **Stress Styles of Communication**.

### Communication

- 1. The act or fact of communicating.
- 2. An **exchange by words**, letters, or messages; interchange of thoughts or opinions.
- That which is communicated or imparted; intelligence; news; a verbal or written message.







### The Four Stress Styles









With appreciation to Virginia Satir





## Run, Freeze or Fight







(Ostrich)
Distractor
Irrelevant







## Placater Style

#### **Eager to Please - Apologizing.**

- Says: "Please don't be mad." "It's all my fault." "Yes, anything you say..."
- Feels inside: I'm nothing by myself. I don't want to be rejected. I have to keep the other person happy.
- **Believes:** I'll blame myself before you can blame me. Perhaps you'll feel sorry for me or guilty about yourself.



1 Cancels out Self





## **Blamer Style**

### Criticizing - Accusing - Finding Fault.

- **Says:** "You never do anything right." "If it weren't for you." "You're so stupid."
- Feels inside: I'm all alone. Nobody really likes me.
- Believes: Demolish the other one before he or she can demolish me. The best defense is a good offense.



2 Cancels out Other





## Computer Style

#### Rigid - Insensitive - Overly-Technical.

- **Says:** "What, me? Upset? I'm not upset." "Let's be reasonable."
- Feels inside: I'm afraid of feelings, yours or mine.
- **Believes:** You can't get me if I don't let you bother me.

### Showing feelings is a weakness.

I'll use big words and a cool manner to impress you. I'll hide behind the facts.



3 Cancels out
Self and Other





## Distracter Style

Talkative - "Spacey" - Subject-Changing.

- **Says:** "Problem? What problem? Let's talk about something else..."
- Feels inside: I'm scared of what may happen. I don't know what to do. I'm basically unlovable.
- **Believes:** If I ignore the problem, it will go away or get better. If I make things fun for you, you'll accept me.



4 Cancels out
Self, Other and Context

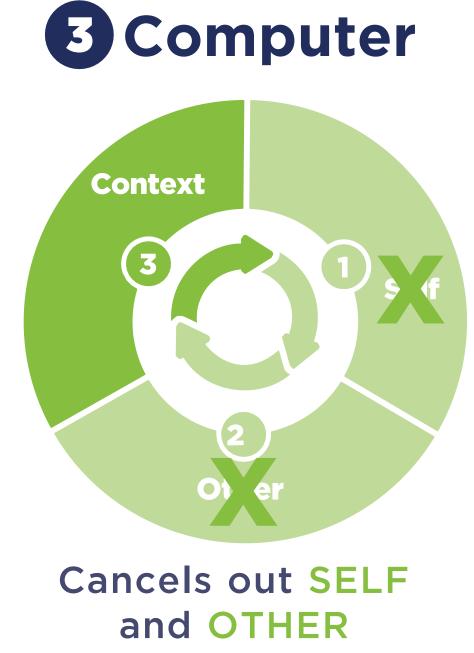


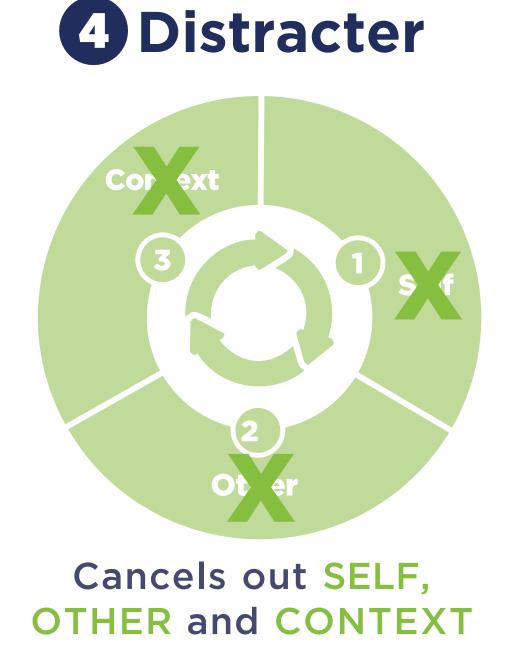


### The four Stress Styles









With appreciation to Virginia Satir





### Stress Styles that Affect Connecting

DIS-EASE
DISTRESS
DISTRUST

**UNHAPPINESS** 

PAIN
DANGER
FEAR/ANGER

These Styles Move
Away from Connecting

PLACATER
DISTRACTER
IRRELEVANT
COMPUTER
SUPER-REASONABLE

(Control Verbally or Physically)

**BLAMER** 

Connecting

Communications/ Understanding EASE EUSTRESS TRUST

**HAPPINESS** 

PLEASURE DESIRE LOVE

These Styles Move Towards Connecting

LEVELING CONGRUENT

Confiding
Responsive
Honest
Open
Authentic





## **Our Personal Styles**



Think about these **four negative communications styles**. Rank them in the order that you most often use them (from one to four). Now, focus on the two styles that you rated highest and consider the questions that follow:

- When was the last time you used this style?
- What kind of things did you say?
- How did the other person react?
- How did you feel about yourself?





### Leveler

### Responsible, Understanding, Authentic.

- Says: "This is how I feel..." "This is what I think..." "This is what bothers me..." "This is what I'm asking of you...".
- **Feels inside:** I accept myself. I respect the other person's rights. I want the best for both of us.

### **Responsible** - responsible \Re\*spon"si\*ble\

- 1. Accountable; answerable; amenable.
- 2. Able to respond or answer for one's conduct and obligations; trustworthy, financially or otherwise.
- **3. Involving responsibility;** involving a degree of accountability on the part of the person concerned; as, a responsible office.





### Leveler's Beliefs

- I can talk about how things are for me without blaming the other person.
- I can like other people, and want them to like me, without feeling
   I have to please them all the time.
- I can say what I think and what I feel without hiding behind a mask.
- I can face and discuss things that bother me instead of avoiding them.

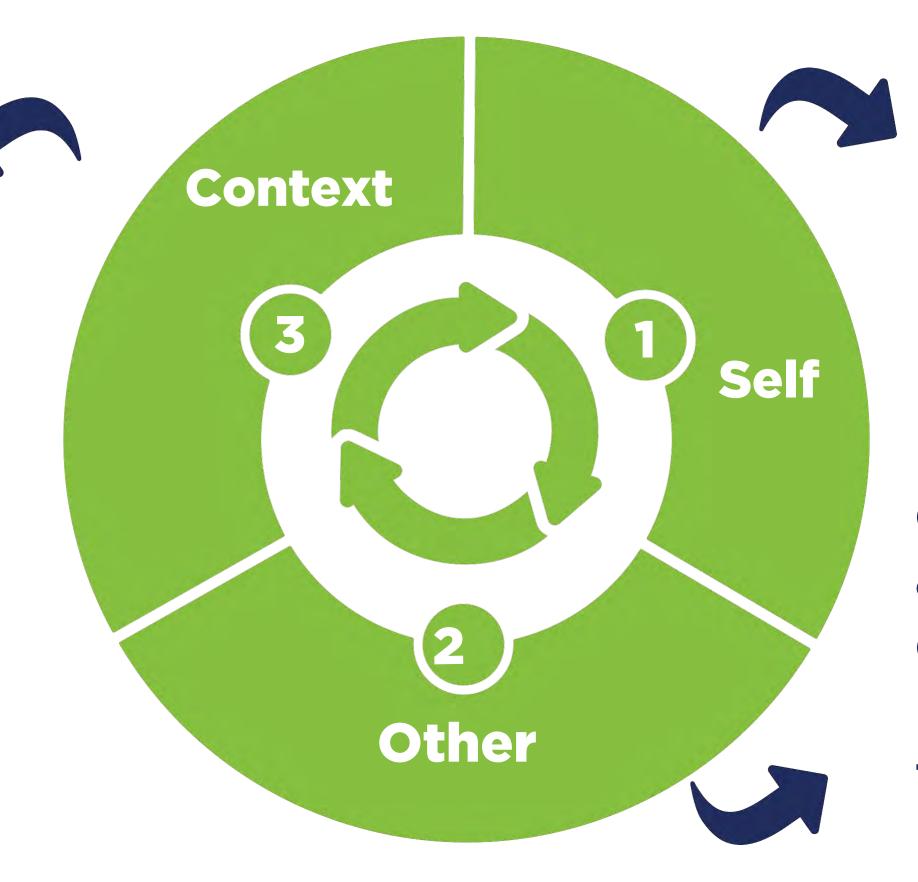






## Congruent Style

Together we can bring our resources to solving whatever problems or challenges we face.



I can speak on my own behalf.

I can have empathy and show concern for how it is for the other.







# Unit Four Clear Communications



#### **Good Communication**

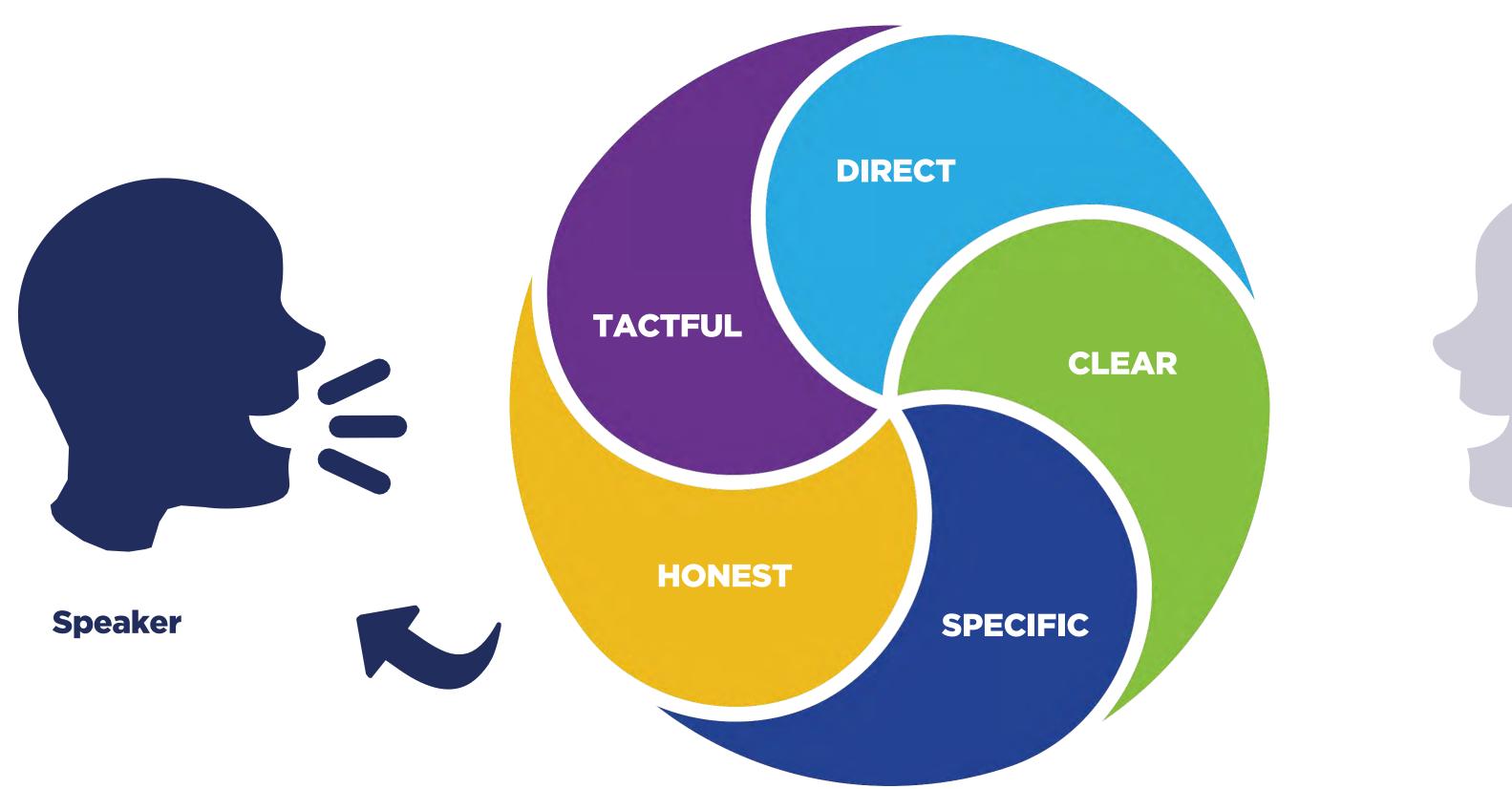


GOOD **TALKING** GOOD LISTENING GOOD COMMUNICATION





# **Good Talking**



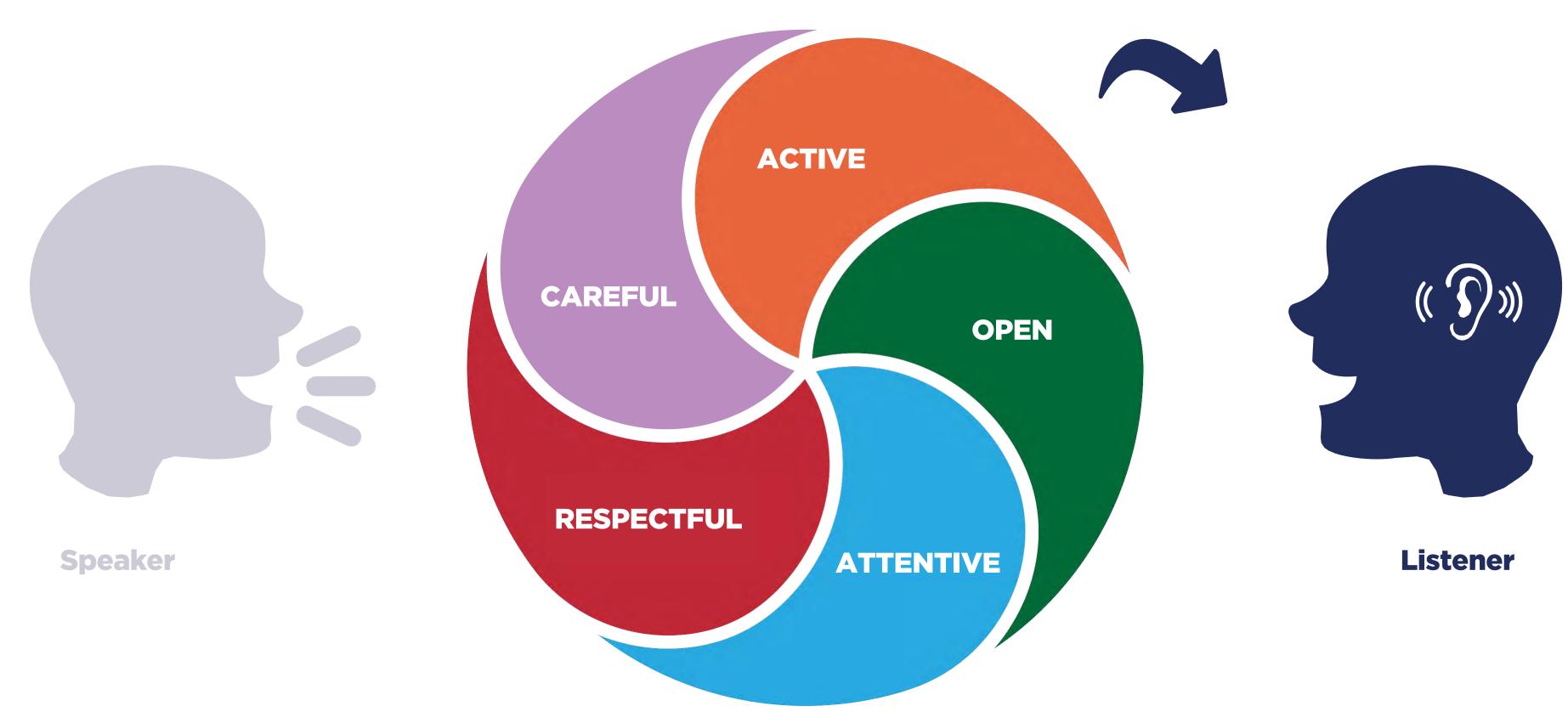








# **Good Listening**







# **Empathic Shared Meaning**

**Good listening** includes repeating back to the Speaker the words and meaning – with empathy – of what you heard them say.



### PAIRS Talking Tips

The **Talking Tips** method is a simple, **ten-step process** for talking that you're about to learn. It offers you the chance to do something smart! **Talking Tips** is the most sensible way of letting other people know what's bothering you.





### Talking Tips Help you...

Know what to say and how to say it, so that you don't have to suffer in silence.

**Express** what's bothering you without making the other person feel bad, angry or attacked.



**Be clear** and **specific**, so that the other person understands the problem better and can figure out more ways of solving it.

Realize more about why you are angry, hurt, or frustrated, so you can resolve these feelings and keep them from happening again.

Allow the person to know you better and respect you more, which means the person can be more interested in helping you.





# Before you use Talking Tips

**Pick the right time to talk.** It should be a time when you and the other person has at least a half-hour free to do nothing else but talk and listen to each other.

**Pick the right place to talk**, somewhere you can have privacy, quiet, and comfort.

Tell the other person that you have **something you want to talk about**. If you want, you can say you want to use a **special guide** for talking that you think would help.

Ask the other person if he or she would be **willing to listen** to you talk about something, to hear you out, **without interrupting**. This is very important. Tell the other person you'll do the same thing in return after you've finished talking.

If the other person agrees to do this, say that you will let him or her know when you have completed what you wanted to say.





# Notice "I-Talk" -- Stay Specific

Each step begins with a different "I" phrase that focuses on just one part of the problem. You start with the first phrase, "I notice..."

Using that phrase, you complete the sentence to fit your situation. "I notice..." must be about a behavior that you have noticed, not a feeling or a thought that you assume is there.

# **Brief, Direct and Complete**

If you feel it would make things more clear, add another sentence or two about what you "notice" before moving on to the next phrase ("I assume..."). But try to be as brief and direct as you can. Remember, you have several other statements coming up, and an important part of the process is to talk about just one issue at a time, staying with the same problem.





# **Cover All Important Points**

Move on to the next phrase ("I assume this means..."), say what you think their behavior means. When you're finished, go on through each phrase in order, without skipping a phrase, until you have finished the last one ("I hope..."). This way, you make sure that you say all the important points, and that the other person has every chance to understand and appreciate all the facets of what you are communicating.







#### I NOTICE...

Say the specific behavior that is bothering you.

Example: "I notice that whenever I make phone calls, your face looks as if you are angry with me."



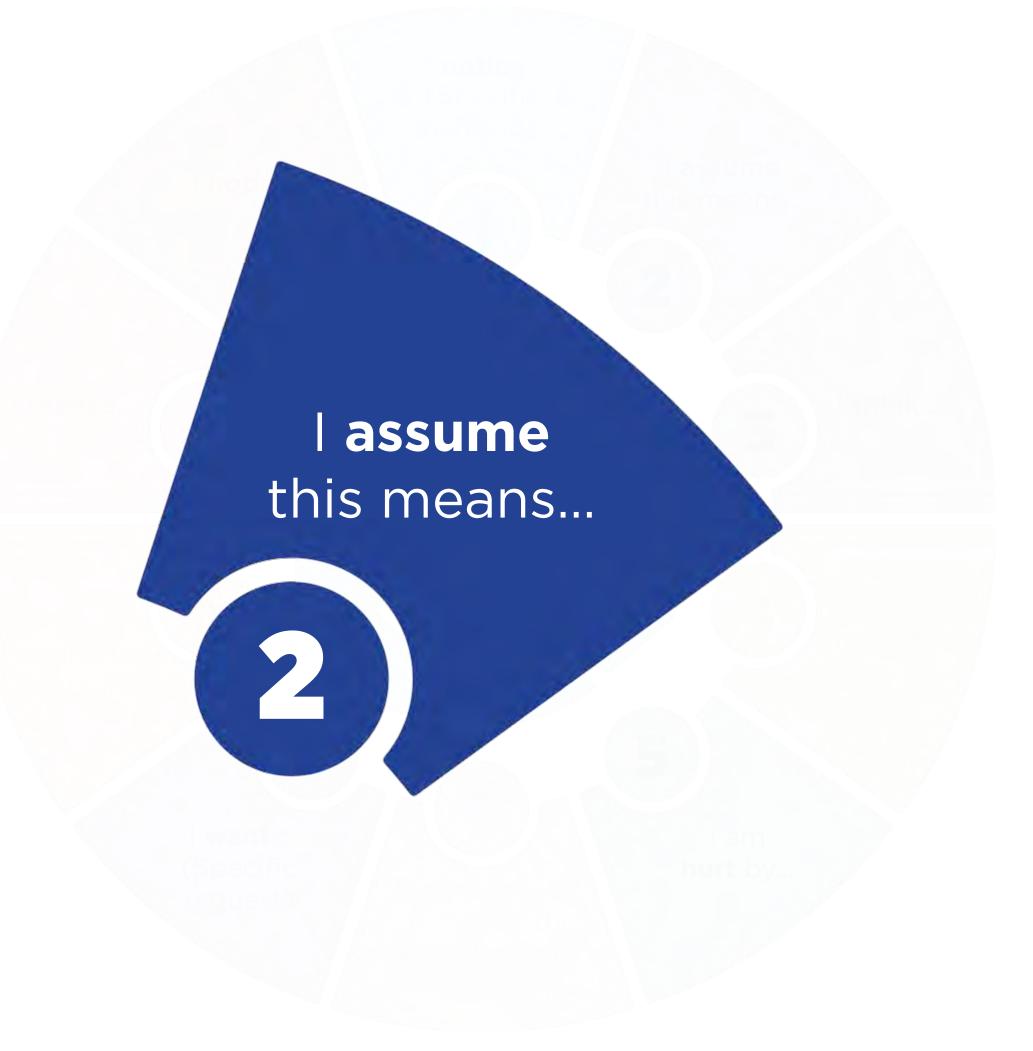




#### I ASSUME THIS MEANS...

Say what you assume is the reason for this behavior.

Example: "I assume this means that you don't want me to spend time talking to my friends on the phone."







#### I THINK...

Say your reason (logic) for doing what you do or wanting what you want.

**Example:** "I think it's important to me to be able to talk with my friends whenever they call me."



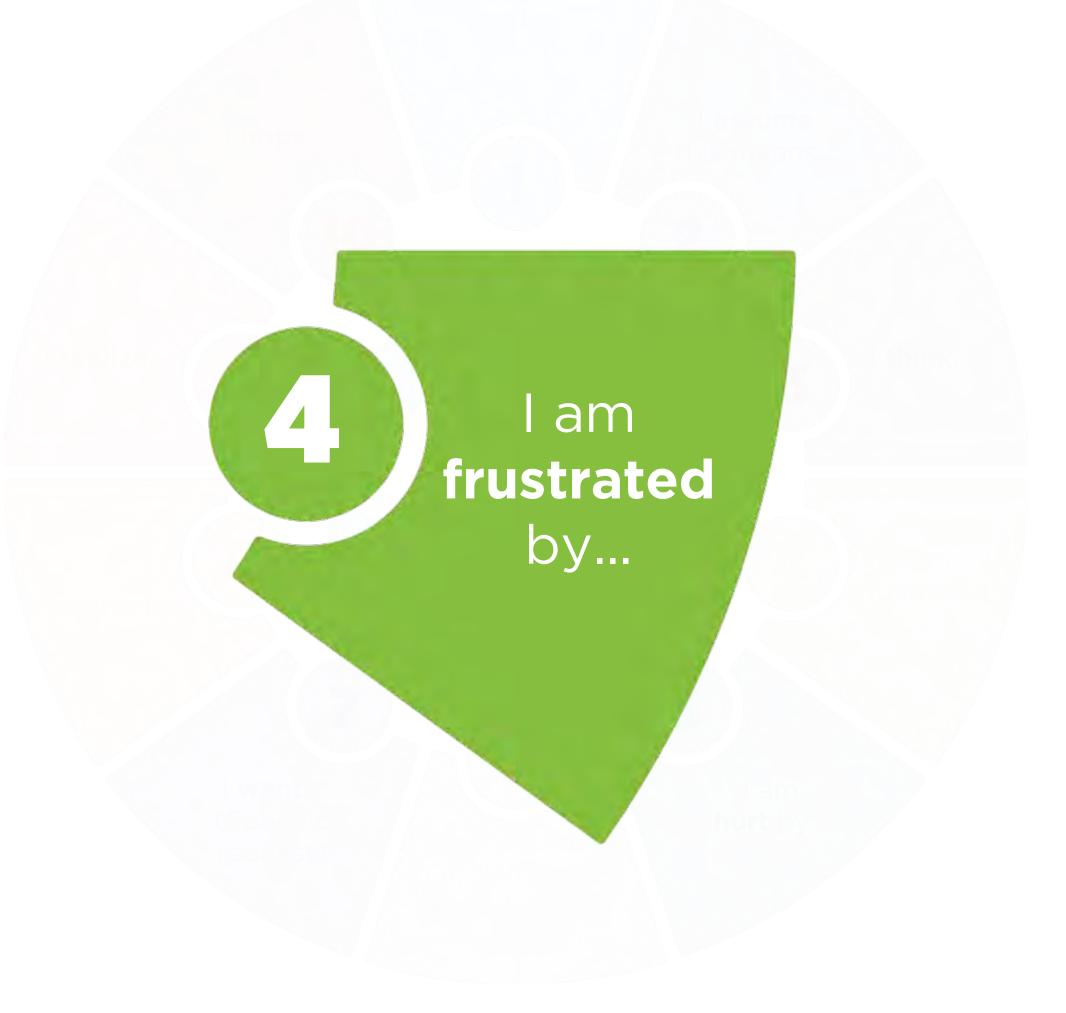




#### I RESENT...

Say what makes you upset about the other person's behavior.

Example: "I resent the feeling that you are hanging over me when I'm talking on the phone."







#### I AM HURT BY...

Say what hurts you about the other person's behavior.

Example: "I am hurt by feeling that you don't let me decide for myself when I can talk to my friends on the phone."







#### I WORRY ABOUT...

Say what this behavior makes you fear.

**Example:** "I worry about this making me not want to be at home with you and not want to be friends."







#### I WANT...

Say something specific that you want the other person to do instead of doing the thing that bothers you.

**Example:** "I worry about this making me not want to be at home with you and not want to be friends."







# I APPRECIATE YOU FOR...

Say something that shows you value the other person and respect their rights.

**Example:** "I appreciate you for being such a great friend and wanting to spend time with me after school."







#### I REALIZE...

Say something that shows you can understand why they may be behaving the way they are.

Example: "I realize that it's hard for you to be at my house and feel like I'm not paying attention to you because I'm on the phone."







#### I HOPE...

Say something that you hope will happen as a result of this talk.

Example: "I hope you'll realize that I'm really glad we're friends but that I also need to be able to talk on the phone after school to people who call without it making you upset."







#### Reflecting on Talking Tips

- What steps were the easiest for to do?
- What steps were the most difficult?
- Thinking about each difficult step separately, why was it difficult?
- Thinking about the near future, when and where could you actually use these Talking Tips sentences with the person involved?
- Thinking about other chances for using Talking Tips, who are some other people whose behavior bothers you, and what, specifically, is that behavior?
- Who are some other people who are often bothered by you –
  people you could teach to use **Talking Tips**, so that things would
  go better for both of you when they're upset with you?





# I - Talk, I - Statements



#### **YOU-statements:**

- "YOU think you can do whatever you want."
- "YOU keep picking on me."
- "YOU make me furious when you..."

#### I. statements:

- "I think that you believe you can do whatever you want."
- "I feel as if you are picking on me."
- "I get angry when you..."





#### "You" Talk & "I" Talk

#### "YOU Talk (-)

"I" Talk (+)

You don't care about me. You're just using me.

I feel as if you don't care about me. Sometimes I think you're just using me.

Can't you at least try to act better?

I would appreciate it if you tried to behave better towards me by talking to me without yelling.

You forgot to pick me up after the game.

I am upset because you forgot to pick me up after the game.

You're lying!

I find it hard to believe you.

What are you going to do about it?

It would help if I knew what you plan to do about it.

You shouldn't have done that.

I don't think you should have done that.

You get on my nerves.

I get really upset with you.

You keep refusing to talk about this.

I've noticed that you don't want to talk about this.

You let me down when...

I was disappointed when you...

You're wrong.

I think differently about that...







# Wishes HODES Dreams







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#### Upcoming Events & Programs

#### **WEBINARS**

March 28 | Where are my things? An Introduction & Application Tutorial

April 11 | Harnessing Technology for Patient-Centered Rounding: Trends and Best Practices

April 23 | Volunteers: The Key to Patient and Employee Satisfaction

#### **CONNECTION CALLS**

April 10 | Lost Belongings Workgroup

April 16 | Membership Benefits Overview

April 17 | Physician Community Connection Call – Three Ways Physicians are Elevating PX

April 19 | PX Chat on PFA/PFACS: New/Getting Started

April 24 | Ambulatory Care Connection Call - Wait Times

#### **PROGRAMS**

April 16 | Foundations of Volunteer Management



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Webinars are included in membership with the Institute.

#### The Global Patient Experience Event

ELEVATE PX is a combination in-person/virtual gathering bringing together the voices of the global community committed to elevating the human experience in healthcare.

Denver, CO || April 3-5, 2024



Community Gatherings



Pre-Conference Workshops



Networking Dinner & PX Party





Innovative breakout and poster sessions from leading organizations around the world

#### **Hear from Inspiring Keynote Speakers:**



Nicole Malachowski
First Woman Thunderbird Pilot, Combat Veteran



**Dennis W. Pullin**President & CEO, Virtua Health



Rick Guidotti
Photographer & Founder, POSITIVE EXPOSURE



**Samantha Harris**Breast Cancer Survivor, Emmy-Winning TV Host

