

### Motivational Interviewing

March 11, 2025

#### Disclaimer

Iowa's Center of Excellence for Behavioral Health is partly funded by Iowa's Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

The views, opinions, and content of this training are those of the trainers and do not necessarily reflect the views, opinions, or policies of HHS.



#### **Participation Code**

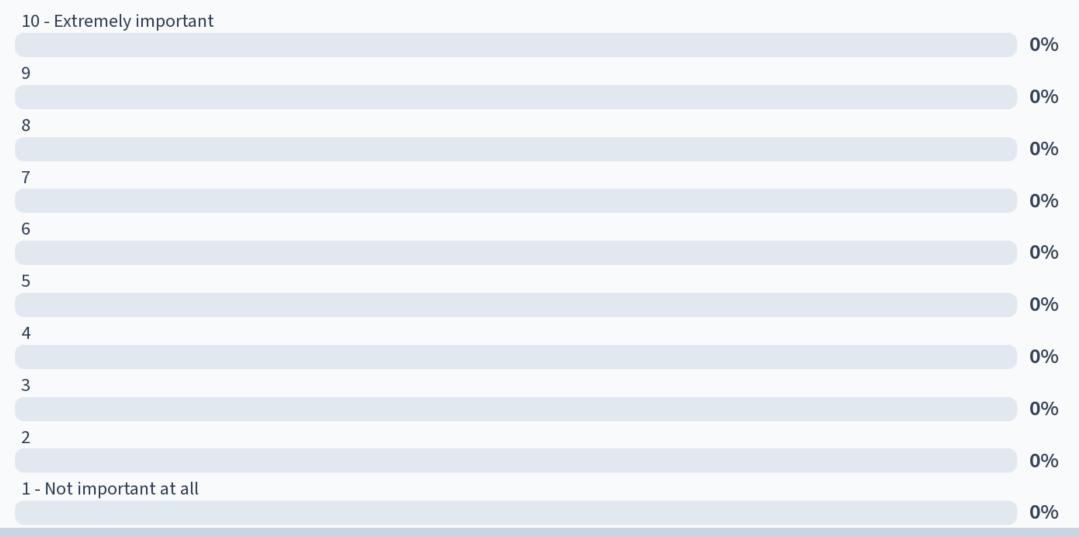
PollEv.com/iowacebh984

(Link is also in the chat)

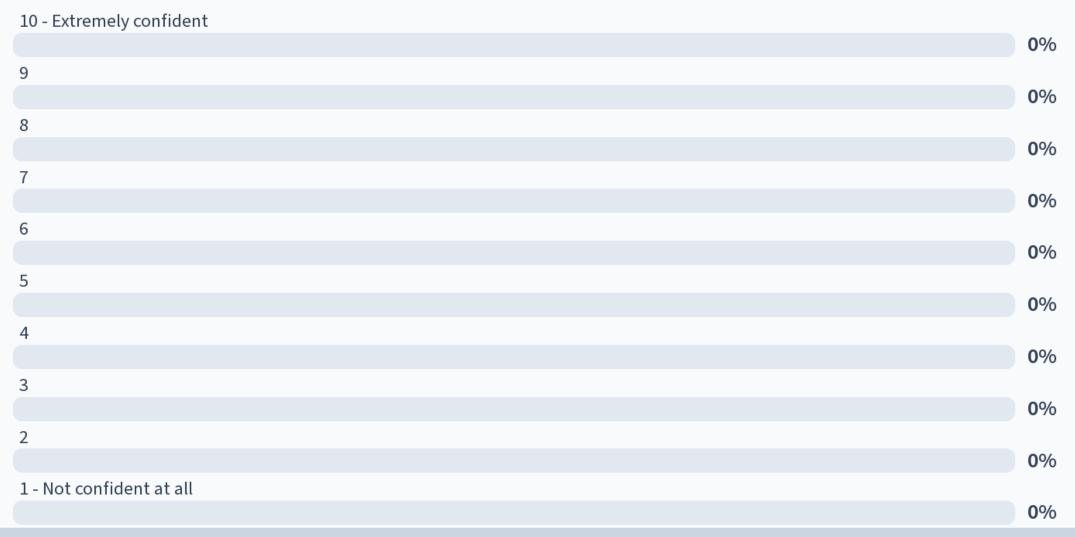




#### How important is it to you to learn more about Motivational Interviewing?



#### How confident are you that you could do Motivational Interviewing right now?

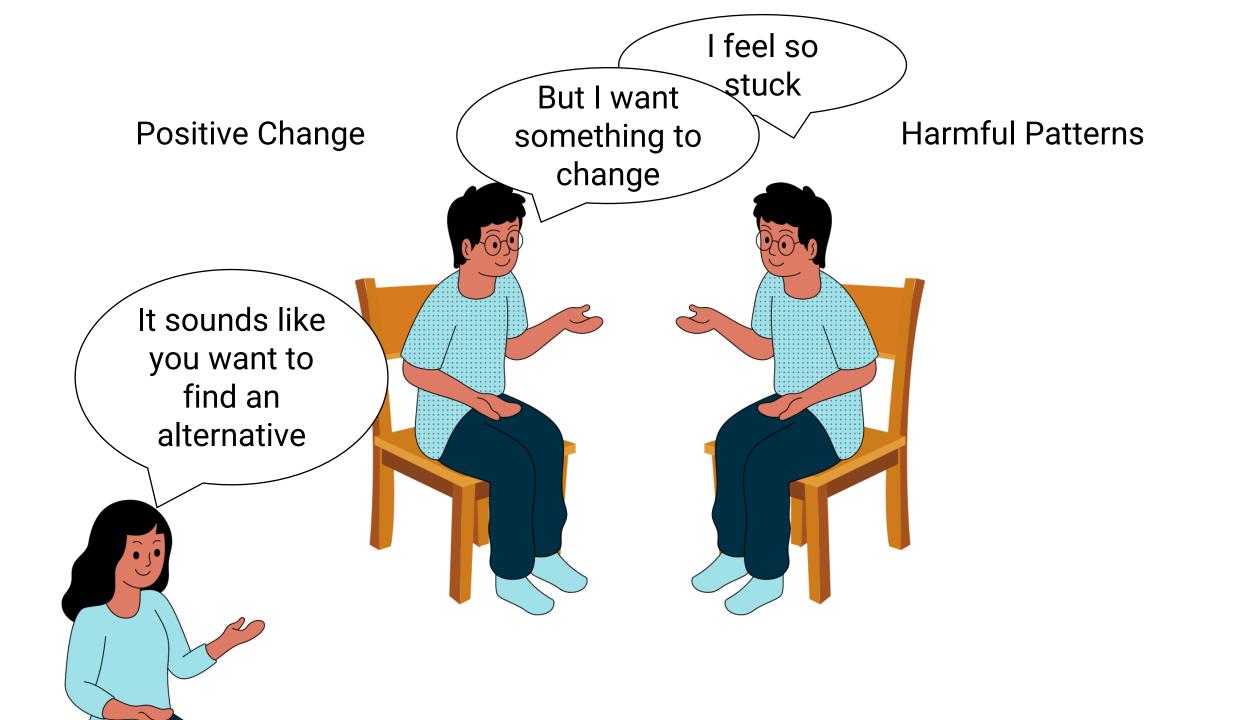


#### **Learning Objectives**

- Integrate a person-centered, strengths-based approach
- Practice recognizing, eliciting, and supporting "change talk"
- Use the "stages of change" to determine what someone most needs from us
- Appreciate that what seems like "resistance" is a mismatch between what we're doing and what the other person needs



# Motivational Interviewing in a nutshell



## **Engaging – Creating Safety**

# Unconditional Positive Regard

The belief that everyone has inherent worth and potential and is worthy of respect simply because they are a human being.





### **Reflective Listening - OARS**

- Open-ended Questions
- Affirmations
- Reflections
- Summaries



#### **Open-Ended Questions**

#### Closed-Ended Example:

Helper: Have you tried talking to your wife?

Client: Yeah

Helper: Did she respond?

Client: No

Helper: Do you think she's mad?

Client: Yeah



#### **Open-Ended Questions**

Open-Ended Example:

What happened when you tried to talk to her?



#### **Affirmations (Strengths)**

You really tried hard You love your family You're always there for your friends That shows growth It takes courage to be that honest You have hope That's a big success It's not easy to be vulnerable like that





#### Reflections

- Reflect a part of what the person said
- Use your own words
- Take the form of a statement, not a question
- Can take a guess at what else the person might mean
  - If your guess is wrong, they will clarify and talk more



#### Summary

Choose 2 or 3 things the person said to reflect at once

You can choose things that, when said together, create a narrative

End with an open-ended question to encourage them to respond

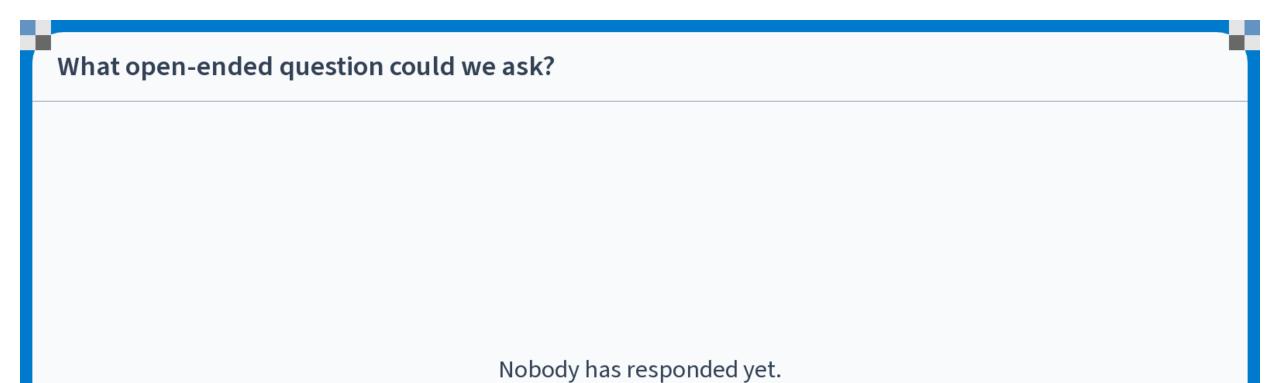




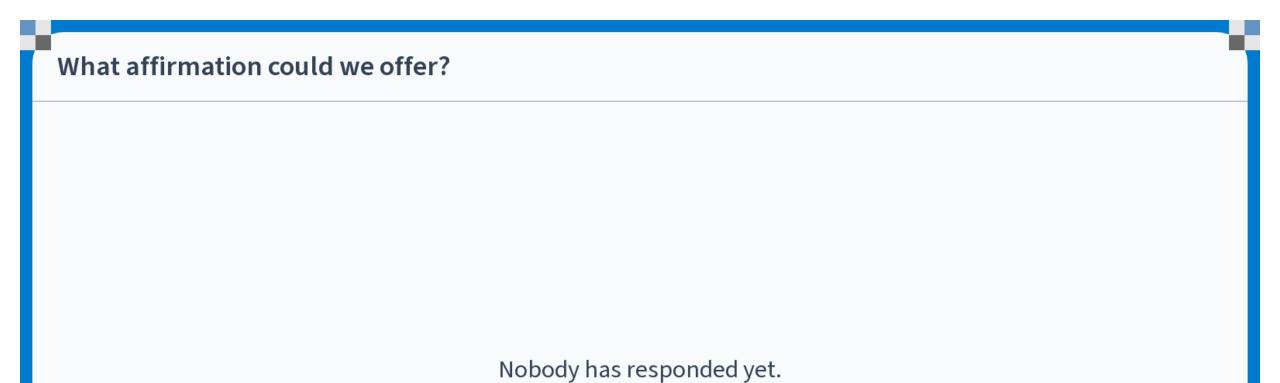
#### How can we respond?

My Maria is a good girl. She's never been in trouble, but I worry about her. Lately she wants to stay out later and later and sometimes I don't know where she is. She just had her ears pierced without asking me! And some of the friends she brings home – well, I've told her again and again to stay away from that kind. They're no good for her, but she won't listen.





Hang tight! Responses are coming in.

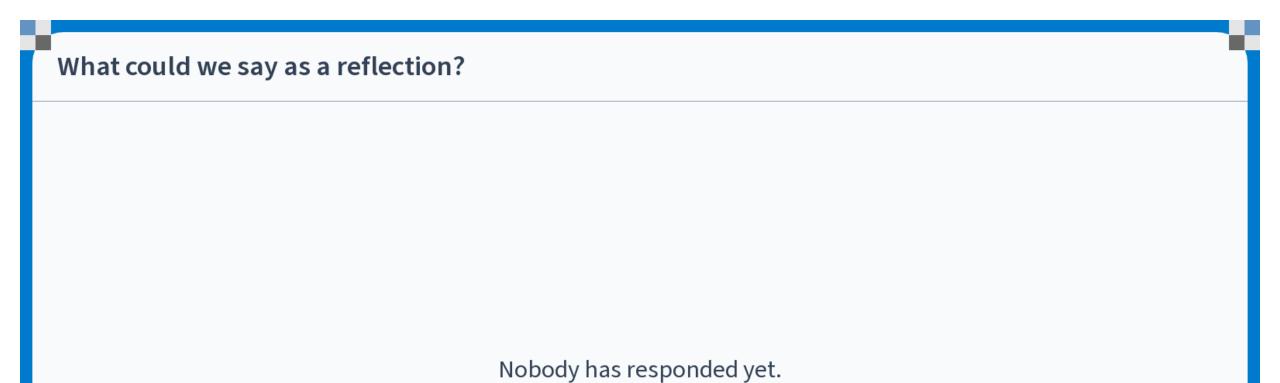


Hang tight! Responses are coming in.

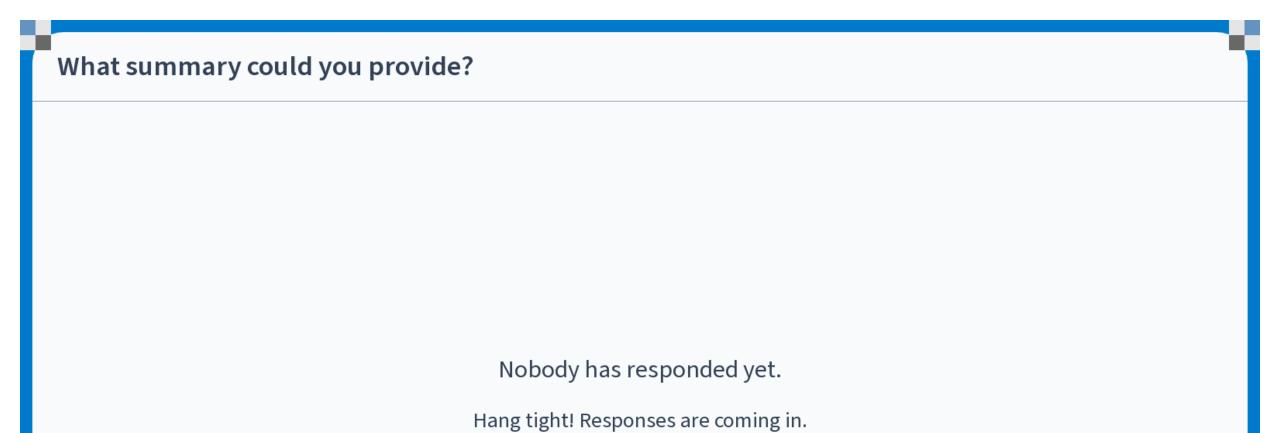
#### How can we respond?

I really feel awful. Last night I got drunk and I don't remember what I did. This morning the screen of the television is busted and I think I probably did it. My wife isn't even talking to me. I don't think I'm an alcoholic because I can go for weeks without drinking. But this has got to change.



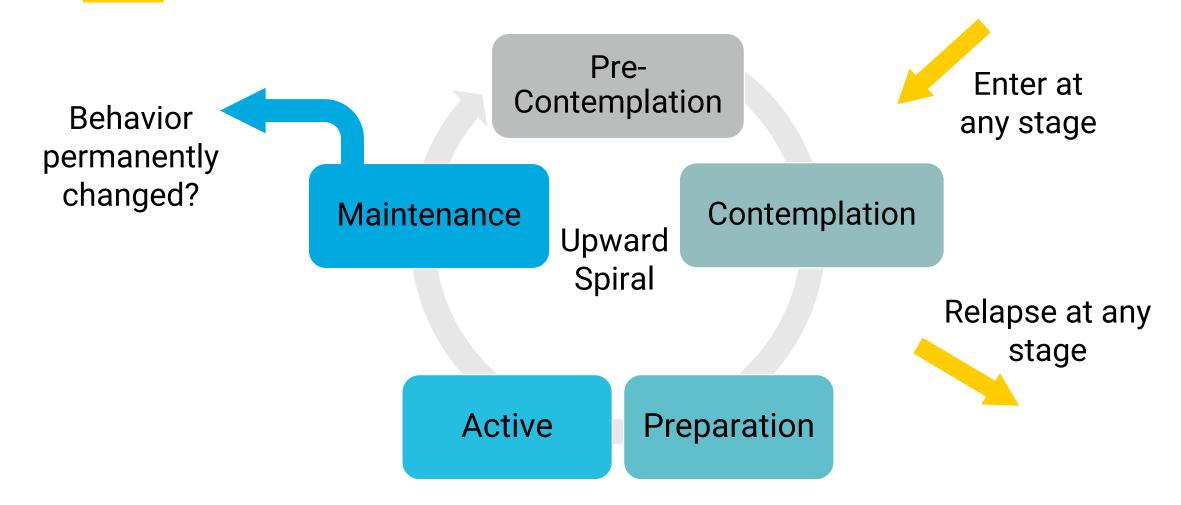


Hang tight! Responses are coming in.



### Stages of Change

How do we know what the person needs from us now?





Pre-Contemplation

- Do not believe they have a problem
  - Not planning to change at all



- May be considering change
- Not planning to change within the next month

Contemplation



- Talking about or researching
- Planning to initiate change within the next month

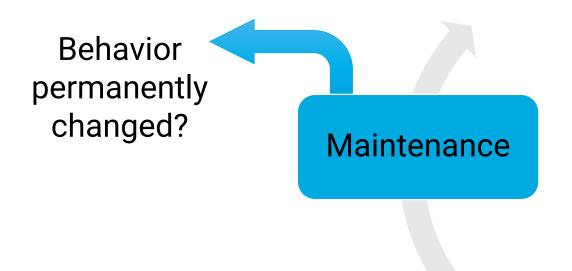
Preparation



- Actively making the change
- First 6 months of starting to change







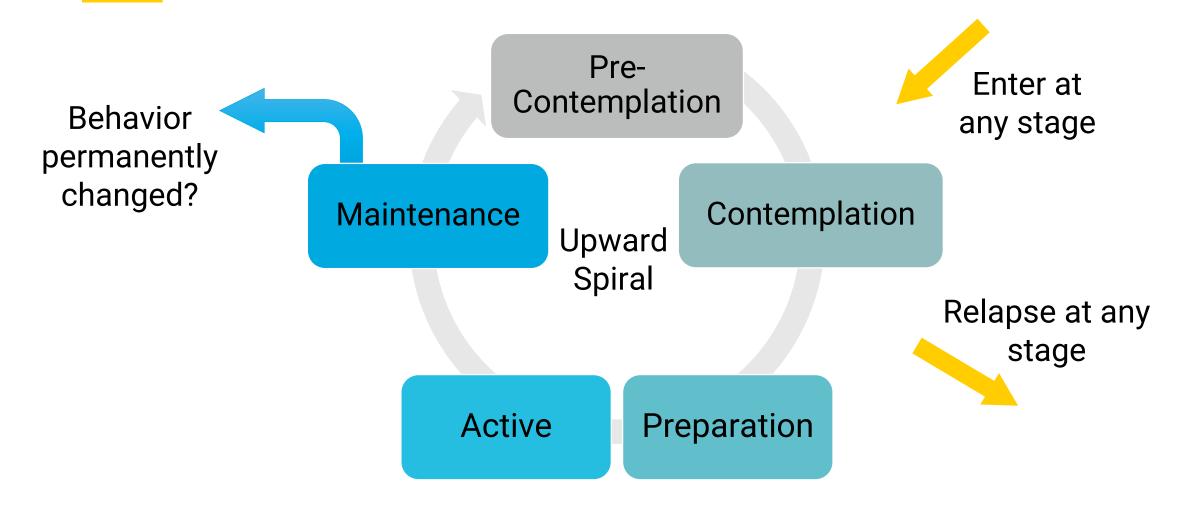
- The change has become a habit
  - 6+ months after beginning the change



- Relapse happens sometimes
- It doesn't erase the lessons learned, and people can re-enter the stages of change

Relapse at any stage







### **What to Listen For**

#### Types of Talk from People We Serve



**Change Talk** 

Any speech that favors movement toward positive change



**Sustain Talk** 

Talk about being stuck or maintaining the status quo



**Discord** 

Sometimes labeled "resistance"



#### **Change Talk**

- Any speech that favors movement toward change
- Preparatory change talk: Desire, Ability, Reasons, Need
  - "I wish I could have less stress in my life."
  - "I could probably exercise more."
- Implementing change talk: Commitment/Intention, Activation, Taking Steps
  - "I started keeping track of what I ate this week."
  - "I bought a glucose monitor and read the manual."



#### **Sustain Talk**

- Desire for status quo
- Inability to change
- Reasons to sustain status quo
- Need to sustain status quo
- Commitment to status quo



# Break

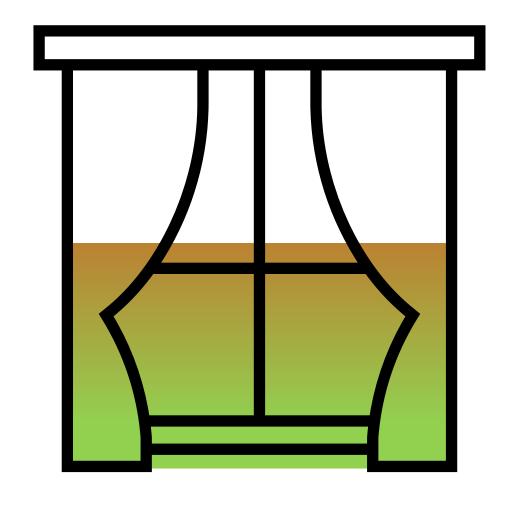
# What kinds of "resistance" have you encountered?

- Write a response in the chat direct to Iowa CEBH
- I'll read some of them aloud



#### **Window of Tolerance**

The "window of tolerance" comes from Dr. Dan Siegel, MD, and describes the range of stress we can experience and still think clearly.





#### Resistance? Discord.

#### Wrestling



#### **Dancing**





#### **Example Part 1**

- Are they wrestling or dancing?
- Are there examples of reflections or affirmations?



#### **Example Part 2**

- Are they wrestling or dancing?
- What is the helper trying to do?
- How do you think the helper feels?



#### **Example Part 3**

- Are they wrestling or dancing?
- What helped?
- Are there examples of open-ended questions, reflections, or affirmations?



# "Righting" or "Fixing" Reflex

It's natural to want to fix things, but it's also counterproductive.



#### What type of talk is it?

- I should do it for my kids.
- I'm in too much pain to even think about working.
- I'm thinking about trying out the Atkins diet. I have nothing to lose.



#### What type of talk is it?

- I'm telling you, it won't work. You will never understand what I've been through.
- I need to find a real job. Maybe go back to school.
- But I don't think I'm an alcoholic or anything.



#### What type of talk is it?

- I wonder, maybe, if alcohol's pickling my brain, or something.
- I am just so sick and tired of people always telling me what to do. I mean really – where do people get off thinking they have the right to say that?
- I don't want my daughter to have the same kind of life I've had.



## **Evoking**

How to draw out change talk

#### What are we trying to draw out in the person?

- Hope for a better future
- Their own reasons to make positive change
- Confidence in their ability to do it
- Recognition of even small steps

How?



## **Evoking with OARS**

- Open-Ended Question
  - How would you like things to be different?
- Affirmations
  - Your relationship with your family is something you value.
- Reflections
  - It sounds like you really need something to change.
- Summaries
  - You've told me why you started drinking, and at this point it's not doing those things for you anymore. It's also led to fights with your significant other. How would you like things to be?



### **Evoking Using Questions**

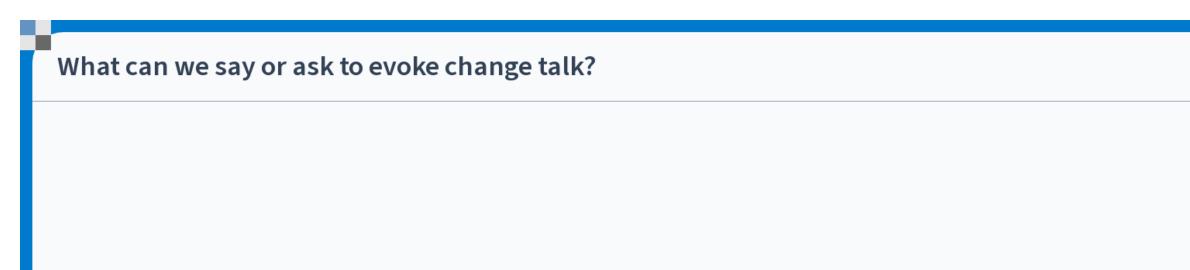
- Why do you want to make this change?
- How might you be able to do it?
- What is one good reason for making the change?
- How important is it, and why? (0-10)
- What do you intend to do?
- What are you ready or willing to do?
- What have you already done?



#### How can we respond?

I really feel awful. Last night I got drunk and I don't remember what I did. This morning the screen of the television is busted and I think I probably did it. My wife isn't even talking to me. I don't think I'm an alcoholic because I can go for weeks without drinking. But this has got to change.





Nobody has responded yet.

Hang tight! Responses are coming in.

# **Supporting Change Talk**

### **Supporting Change Talk**

"I wish I could have less stress in my life. I could probably exercise more. I did start keeping track of what I ate this week."

- "Tell me more about that."
- "That shows a lot of follow-through!"
- "You've been thinking about ways to get healthier, and you've already taken steps to act on it. What would help you on this path?"



#### **Example:**

• I was worried there at first, but I don't think I really have diabetes. The doctor said it was "borderline" or something like that, and I feel fine.



## **Navigating Change Plans**

How can we move from talk to goals?

### **Moving from Talk to Goals**

- If you had to select just one thing to focus on now based on your values, what would you select and why?
- What do you think you will do next?
- What's one thing you could do before next week that would help move you in that direction?



#### **Motivational Ruler**

- On a scale of 1-10, where 1 means it definitely won't happen and 10 means it definitely will, how likely are you to do this in the next week?
- What would it take to raise that number?



## When Offering Information...

- What would be most helpful from me right now?
- Would you like some referrals?
- Would you like me to share some ideas that have worked for others?



# Revisiting the Example Conversation (Wrestling)

#### Things the helper said:

- You might qualify for unemployment. Have you applied?
- Have you been to Workforce Development since you got fired?
- Workforce development has lists of current job openings in the community that they print off each week. There are many jobs you can apply for.

# Revisiting the Example Conversation (Dancing)

#### Things the helper said:

- What do you want to have happen?
- What is something you can do today to help you feel better so that tomorrow or next week or whenever you'll feel more ready to face a job search?
- What things do you do that you are good at or take pride in?



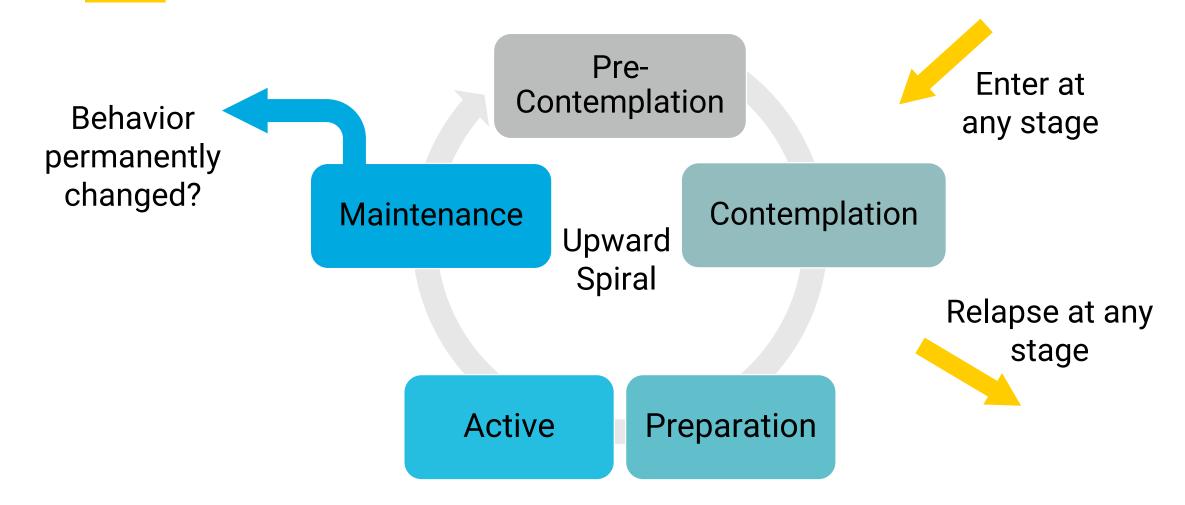
## **Bringing It All Together**

#### **Example**

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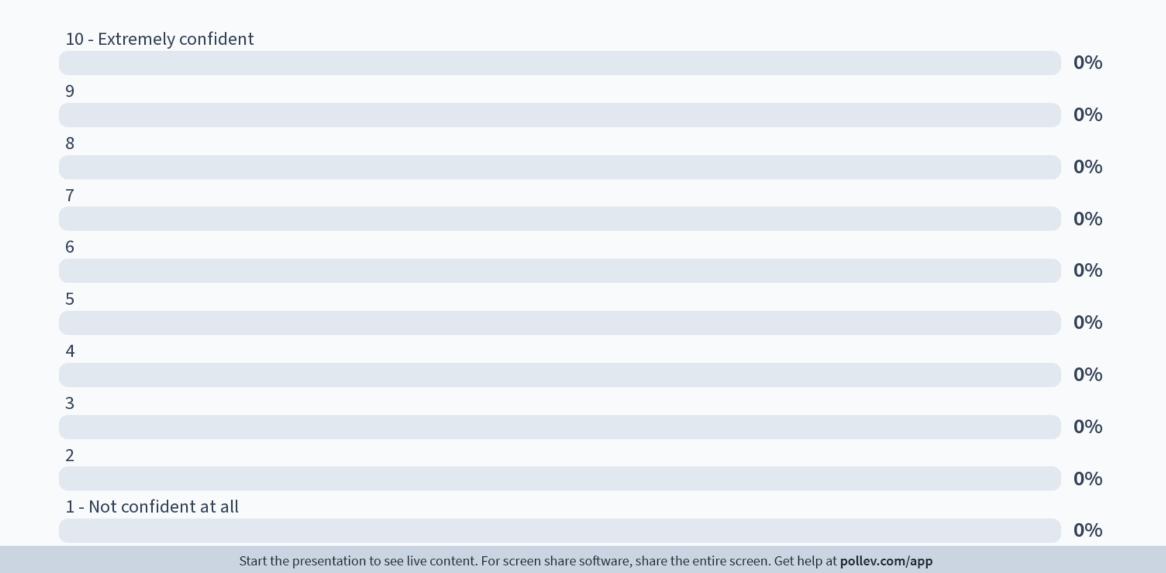


## **Stages of Change Model**





#### How confident are you that you could do Motivational Interviewing right now?





# Questions?

→ iowacebh.org

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