

# Welcome to Progress Monitoring Tools to Define and Improve APG Practice! We will start at 10 a.m.

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Reminder: Please complete the Poll Questions in the Whova App if you haven't already!

What are the desired outcomes of your APG?


What do you use now to progress monitor or determine if you are achieving the desired outcomes you want in your Alternative Peer Group?



# Progress Monitoring Tools to Define and Improve APG Practice



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creating  
connections  
NH

# Introductions

**Ginger Ross**, BA, CRSW, NCPRSS  
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University of New Hampshire  
Institute on Disability  
Creating Connections NH  
<https://iod.unh.edu/projects/creating-connections-nh>



# Welcome/ Introductions

Tell us who you are in the chat using:  
Your name, Your Agency, Your Role

Raise your hand if you are a...

- Family Support Provider
- APG Facilitator
- Administrator
- Youth
- Family member
- Community provider
- Researcher
- Student
- Other



# ***OBJECTIVES:***



- Identify 3 essential elements of APGs.
- Discuss how Alternative Peer Groups can use progress monitoring tools to reinforce best practice guidelines and focus on upholding these standards.
- Share resources & discuss tools used in your own work.

# How do we Define APG Practices?

# Do you have a clearly defined APG model?

**If yes: what model are you using?**

**If no, what are the essential elements of your APG?**





# Activity: 5-7 minute small group discussion

- Get into pairs or groups of 4.

Discuss:

- What are 2-3 outcomes that you are hoping to achieve through your APG?
- How important is it to know how you are doing in achieving the desired outcomes?

Report Out:

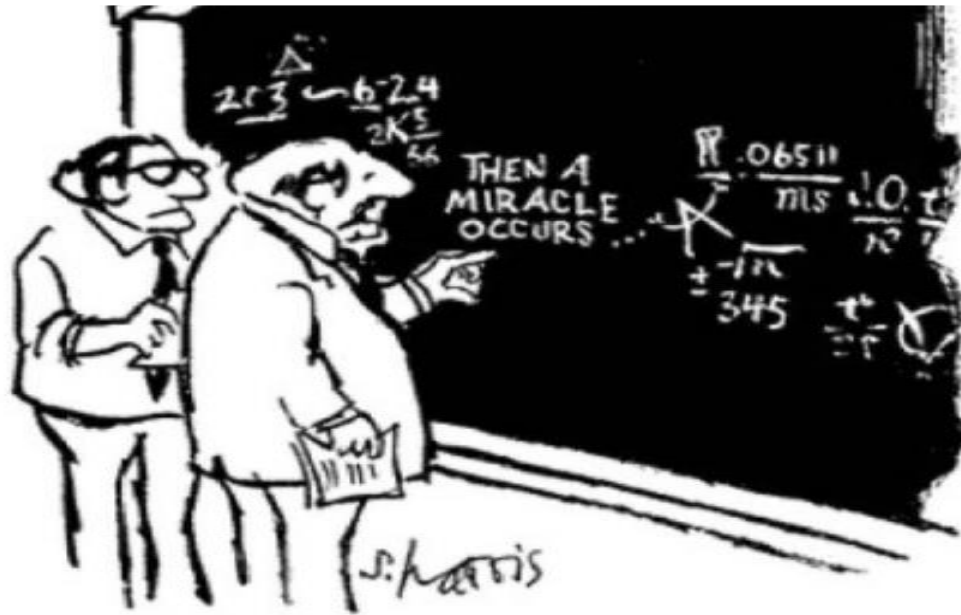


# How do you know if you are effective?

How do you measure that?



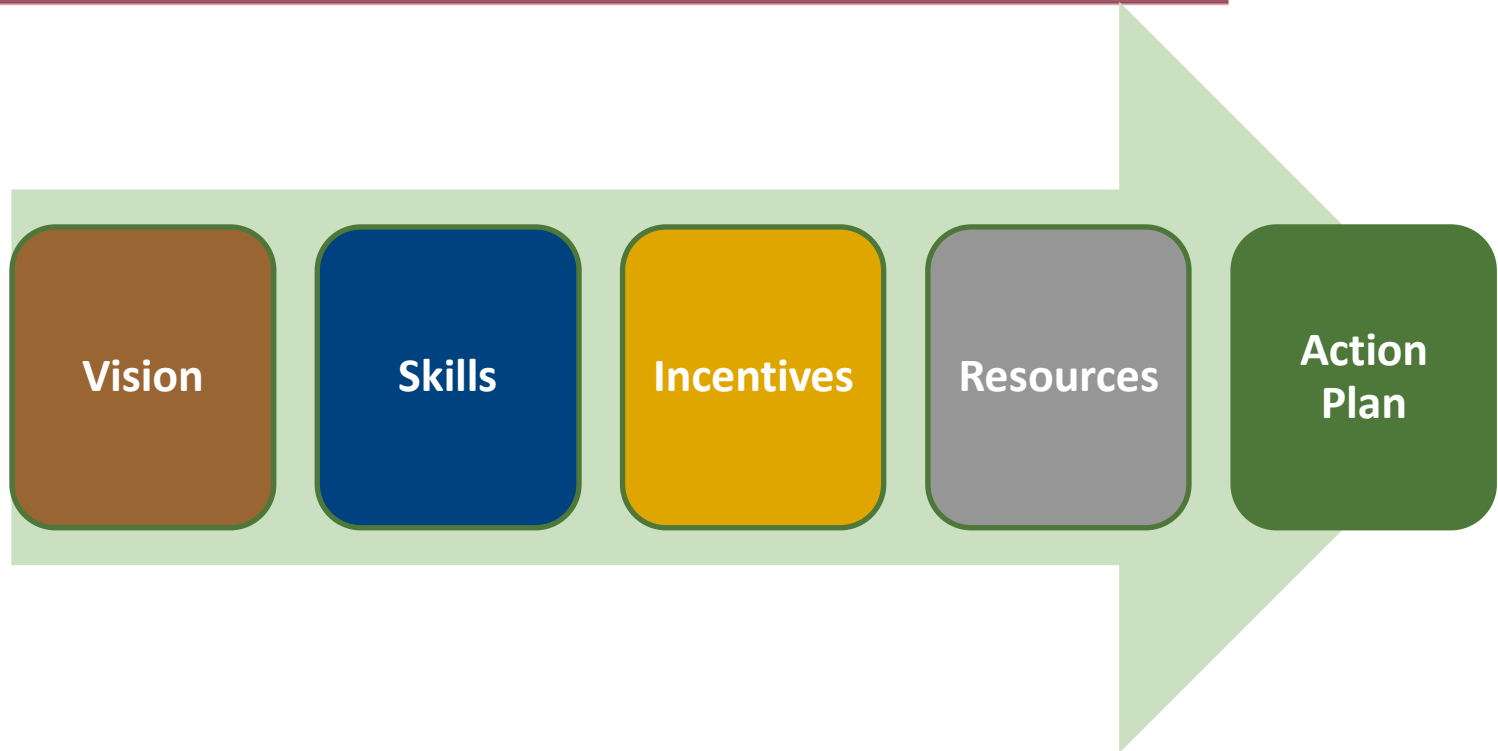
# How we do the work is the key!



"I think you should be more explicit here in step two."



# Elements of Success



Adpated from Knoster, T. (1991) Presentation at TASH Conference in Washington, D.C. Adapted by Knoster from Enterprise Group Ltd.



# Managing Complex Change

Vision	Skills	Reflective Practice	Resources	Action Plan	Incentives	=Change
	Skills	Reflective Practice	Resources	Action Plan	Incentives	=Confusion/ Conflict
Vision		Reflective Practice	Resources	Action Plan	Incentives	=Poor Quality
Vision	Skills		Resources	Action Plan	Incentives	=Stagnation
Vision	Skills	Reflective Practice		Action Plan	Incentives	=Frustration
Vision	Skills	Reflective Practice	Resources		Incentives	=Treadmill
Vision	Skills	Reflective Practice	Resources	Action Plan		=Resistance



# Process Used to Define the NH APG Model

## Convened stakeholders

- Reviewed existing literature about Alternative Peer Groups.
- Convened stakeholders (youth, families, peer and recovery support providers, SUD treatment providers, state and University partners) to define critical components of the APG.
- Aligned the critical components to SAMSHA's Peer Recovery competencies



BRINGING RECOVERY SUPPORTS TO SCALE  
Technical Assistance Center Strategy (BRSS TACS)

### CORE COMPETENCIES FOR PEER WORKERS IN BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES

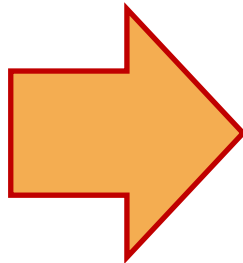
- Created from SAMHSA's Core Competencies:
  - Recovery Oriented
  - Person Centered
  - Relationship Focused
  - Trauma Informed
  - \* Ethical Responsibility Domain added by Creating Connections NH

# APG Practice Profile



## Alternative Peer Group Practice Profile Template

OUTCOME: APGs create a community of young people that encourage healthy lifestyle changes in a safe, socially reinforcing environment that is recovery and wellness focused



Critical Component	Define How this Critical Component Contributes to the Outcome	Define the Data or Outcomes to Measure Implementation	Ideal "Gold Standard" of the Critical Component	Emerging Practice <i>(Acceptable Variation) of the Critical Component</i>	Unacceptable Variation of the Critical Component	Resources
1. The APG is anchored in an organization with adequate support for sustained implementation.	Sustainable implementation of the APGs will help establish and maintain a recovery community that	Budget supervision/coaching structure	The APG has adequate funding, personnel, support, and supervision to sustain high-quality	The APG has funding, support, and supervision, and is learning to develop a long-term strategic	The APG does not have adequate funding, personnel, support, and supervision to sustain high	The National Association for Alternative Peer Groups <a href="http://www.aapg-recovery.com/">http://www.aapg-recovery.com/</a>

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Creating Connections NH APG Practice Profile

V9 June 24, 2020



# APG Implementation Checklist

The APG Implementation Checklist is designed to help the organizations self-assess and monitor the level of implementation of the APG.

- Is there a plan in place to implement and support the APG?
- Are staff facilitating APG groups as they were intended?
- Is there a system in place to ensure that the APG is effectively implemented and sustained?
  
- Recommended using this 2-4 x's a year with your entire APG Team
- Ratings for implementation:
  - "2" fully in place,
  - "1" partially in place, or
  - "0" not yet started.
  - Priority ratings are "H" for high priority, "M" for Medium, and "L" for low priority





# APG Implementation Checklist Focus Areas



- Used to develop an action plan for the APG at the organizational level

## Small Group Activity: Review APG Implementation Checklist

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You will be assigned a small group and will have 10 minutes to:

1. Identify one person to take notes and report out on your conversation at the end.
2. Read through the APG Implementation Checklist discuss the following:
  - Is this section essential to the APG? Why/ Why not?
  - Are there additional critical skills that are missing in this domain?
  - How can this be used to inform or improve your programming?



# Large Group Debrief

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Brief summary of  
your discussion

- Is this a helpful tool? Why/ Why not?
- Are there additional critical skills that are missing in this domain?
- How can this be used to inform or improve your programming?



# Questions?

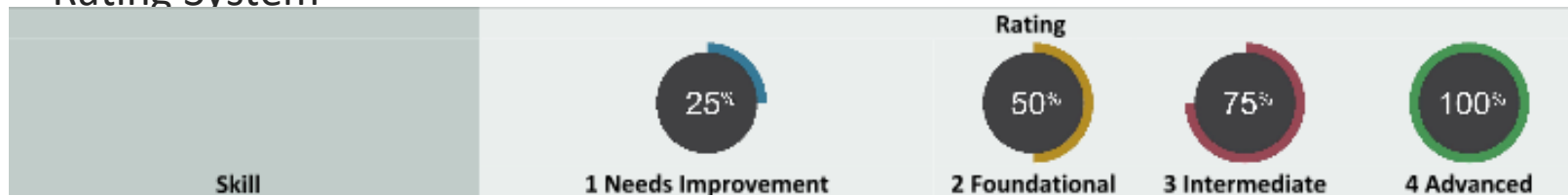
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# The APG Facilitator Fidelity Tool

- Five Domains (Recovery, Relationships, Person Centered, Trauma informed, Ethics)
- Each domain has between 5-6 skills critical to the success of the APG Facilitator's practice and the experience of the participants.
- Intended use:
  - By APG Facilitator for reflection on their practice;
  - By the Coach/ Supervisor overseeing APG facilitator to provide feedback;
  - Identify strengths, areas of growth and professional development needs and opportunities.

## Rating System



# Small Group Activity (10 mins)

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- In person – get into groups of 4-5. Those online will be one breakout room or assigned a break out room named with the domain your group will review
- Go to (APG website)
  - [Refer to or Download APG Facilitator Fidelity Tool](#) (General APG Facilitator Resources)

**Read through the items and reflect with group members on:**

1. Are there other critical skills that are missing?
2. Would you use these tools?
3. What potential barriers are there to using these tools?

**Be prepared to report out on your discussion with the larger group**



# Check out these Additional Resources

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- [Creating Connections NH Website](#)
- [Creating Connections NH APG Website](#)
- [APG Coaches Resources](#)
- [APG Facilitator Resources](#)
- [Oversight Team](#)

Check out our other sessions at the conference:

- **Tuesday 6/14 at 2 p.m. Defining Essential Supports for the APG Presenters:**  
Robin Bergeron, Sierra Riley (LEND Trainee), Heidi Cloutier
- **Wednesday 6/15 at 8:30 a.m. APG Partnerships with Schools Presenters** Bob Faghan, Heidi Cloutier, Adele Bauman



# Questions?

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# Thank you!

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