

Module 4: Family Connections:

The Critical Importance of Family/Caregiver Involvement When Working with Children with PSB



**masoc**  
FOR A WORLD FREE OF  
SEXUAL HARM BY YOUTH

**Massachusetts  
Child Sexual Abuse  
Prevention Task Force**

- We will begin momentarily
- All participants have been muted and cameras have been disabled
- During this webinar:
  - Use the Q&A Box to ask questions. You can also upvote or like other questions that have already been posed.
  - Use the Chat Box for commentary.
- This webinar is being recorded and will be sent out along with the slides when



MASSACHUSETTS CHILDREN'S ALLIANCE

# WORKING TOGETHER TO END ABUSE

Thomas King, LICSW  
Executive Director

[machildrensalliance.org](http://machildrensalliance.org)

# CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTERS IN MASSACHUSETTS

**Children's Advocacy Centers (CACs) throughout the state offer a range of services for children and families.**

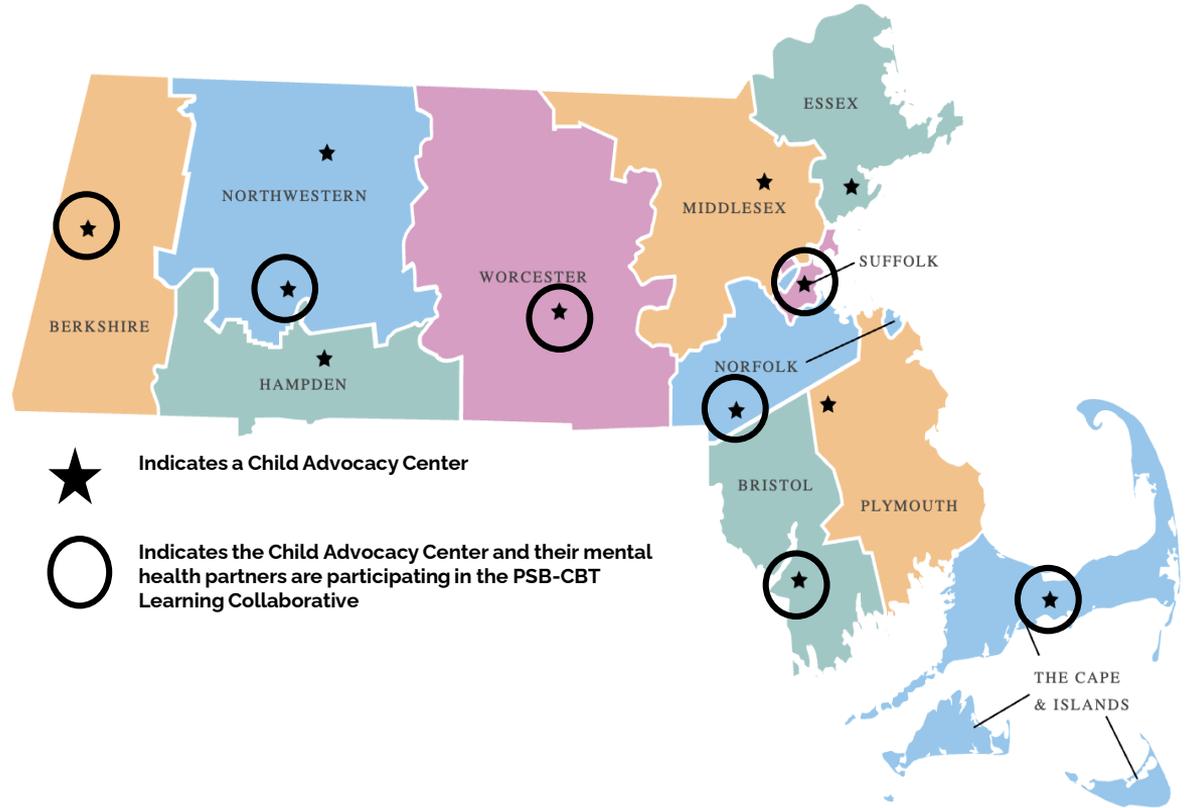
- Child Forensic Interviews
- Victim Advocacy
- Mental Health Services
- Investigation & Prosecution
- Medical Consultation/Exams
- Community Trainings

# The Problematic Sexual Behavior –Cognitive Behavioral Therapy Learning Collaborative

- ❖ Funding recommendation of the legislative MA Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Task Force
- ❖ The National Center on the Sexual Behavior of Youth (NCSBY), a division of the Center on Child Abuse & Neglect at the University of Oklahoma is currently training clinicians across the state in PSB-CBT.
- ❖ Community forum learning opportunities which include this webinar series
- ❖ Evaluation component : University of Massachusetts-Lowell.

# 7 Children's Advocacy Centers, 26 Clinicians & 10 Senior Leaders

- ❖ Berkshire County Kid's Place
- ❖ Children's Advocacy Center of Bristol County and New Bedford Counseling Group
- ❖ Children's Advocacy Center of Franklin County and North Quabbin, Inc. and Clinical Support Options (Also receiving referrals from Hampshire County CAC)
- ❖ Norfolk Advocates for Children, Aspire Health Alliance
- ❖ Worcester County CAC and Youth Opportunities Upheld Inc.
- ❖ Suffolk County CAC (within agency trainer)
- ❖ The Children's Cove (focusing on the Senior Leader training and currently not providing clinical services)



# Family Connections: The Critical Importance of Family/Caregiver Involvement When Working with Children with Problem Sexual Behavior

Jean Lindquist Grady, Psy.D.  
Central MA Collaborative  
MASOC



Our mission is to ensure that children and adolescents with problematic sexual behaviors live healthy, safe, and productive lives



# Module 4: Critical Importance of Family/Caregiver Involvement

- Address the importance of caregivers and families in helping each child grow.
- Discuss the caregiver/family role as an essential protective factor.
- Define and discuss family engagement styles/strategies.
- Provide an overview of resources for caregivers and families.

# Jean Lindquist Grady, Psy.D.

Jean Lindquist Grady, Psy.D. has worked over 20 years in child welfare, mental health counseling, and education, and is currently the Clinical Director at the Central Massachusetts Collaborative (CMC).

Throughout her professional career, Dr. Lindquist Grady is committed to utilizing trauma informed best practices that are community focused, student centered, strength based, and culturally conscious.



# Caregivers Are Key

The most important thing a parent/caregiver can do is support the safety and well-being of their children.

# How Caregivers Can Help

- Helping children develop healthier choices and behaviors
- Accessing effective treatment to prevent future PSB
- Reinforcing respect, healthy boundaries and behaviors

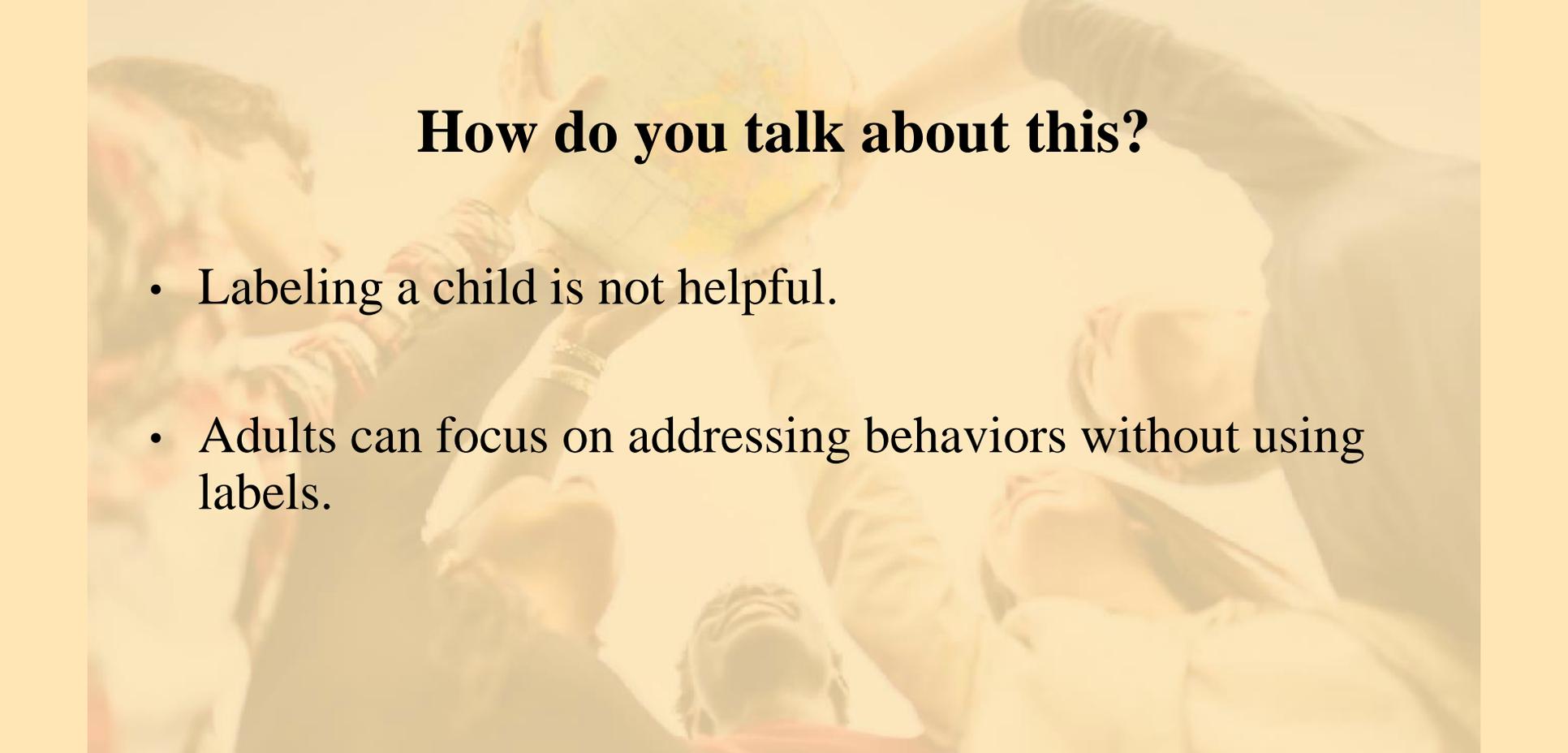
# Caregiver Role in Treatment is Paramount

- Supervision is key – only informed adults are given responsibility of oversight
- Set clear expectations and rules
- Establish support systems to help manage a child's behavior
- Focus on translating skills into real-life family and community situations

# Names and Labels Matter!

There is a strong stigma attached to PSB that can lead to severe social and academic consequences for youth.





## How do you talk about this?

- Labeling a child is not helpful.
- Adults can focus on addressing behaviors without using labels.

## How do you talk about this?

*“Why label someone by the very behavior you want them to change?”*



Gwen Willis, 2017

# Family Engagement

- Everyone (parent, child, other adult family members and the provider) is a part of treatment.
- All are involved in goal setting and decision making.



# Family Engagement Strategies

- Greet families as they enter and leave the building
- Establish a routine of saying “*good morning*” and “*have a nice day*”
- Engage families in improvement surveys AND incorporate their suggestions





# Family Engagement Strategies

## Build Trusting Relationships

- Frequent and positive communication
- Treat everyone with respect – ask about their own lives and interests
- Ensure that positive interactions are emphasized as well as addressing behaviors to be changed



# Family Engagement Strategies

## Be intentional about staff hiring and training

- Learn about local structural, attitudinal and cultural barriers to participation
- Hire staff reflective of family demographics
- Train staff to respect cultural differences and own biases
- Incorporate family engagement into staff's daily responsibilities
- Set work time to discuss and reflect on improving family engagement

# Family Engagement Strategies

## Connect families to each other

- Utilize afterschool and summer programs to facilitate connections
- Encourage partnerships to expand opportunities to extend learning

# Family Engagement Strategies

## Support Caregiver and Family basic needs

- Provide access to community resources
- Host forums and discussion nights
- Train for leadership and advocacy
- Enhance community and school partnerships

# Address Barriers to Action

- Scheduling
- Transportation
- Child-care/resources
- Parent's own treatment issues

# Treatment

What do we provide to families/caregivers in treatment?

- Psychoeducation
- Boundaries and Positive Relationship skills
- Parenting skills
- Trauma Informed Approach





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# Future Webinar

## Treatment Interventions for Problem Sexual Behavior: One Size Does Not Fit All

Kevin Creeden  
September 22, 2020  
2:00-3:30pm EST

# Contact Information



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