

NOVA ONE FAMILY REENTRY INITIATIVE

Engaging and Supporting Families
Affected by incarceration

Second Chance Act Conference May 22 -24,
2012

A Collaboration

- ❖ Community Works, One Family
- ❖ San Francisco Sheriff's Department, NoVA
- ❖ San Francisco Adult Probation
- ❖ The Bridging Group

No Violence Alliance

- ❖ Established in 2006 NoVA is a collaboration between the San Francisco Sheriff's Department and eleven community providers
- ❖ Goal: To address violence by reducing recidivism and aiding individuals who have violent offenses in reentry process.
- ❖ Continuum of Services:
 - Intensive Case Management
 - Violence Prevention Services
 - Transitional Housing

One Family

- ◆ History
 - ◆ SFCIPP
 - ◆ SFSD Strategic Plan
- ◆ From the Eyes of the Child
- ◆ “Everyone Matters”

Children's Bill of Rights

- I have the right to be kept safe and informed at the time of my parent's arrest
- I have the right to be heard when decisions are made about me
- I have the right to be considered when decisions are made about my parent
- I have the right to be well cared for in my parent's absence
- I have the right to speak with, see and touch my parent
- I have the right to support as I face my parent's incarceration
- I have the right not to be judged, blamed or labeled because my parent is incarcerated
- I have the right to a lifelong relationship with my parent

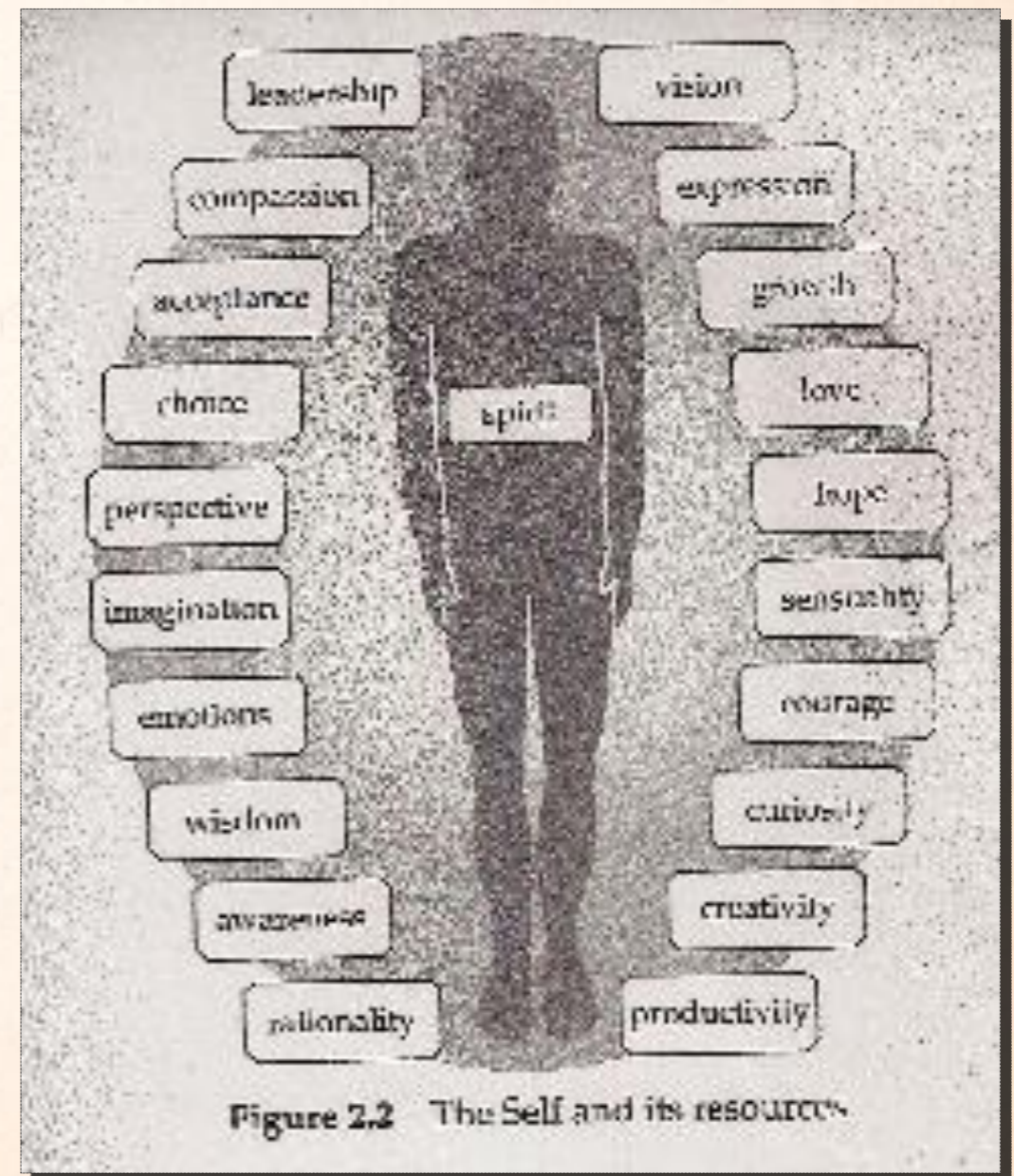
Families as Systems

“In a mobile all the pieces, no matter what size or shape, can be grouped together in balance by shortening or lengthening their strings, rearranging the distance between pieces, or changing their weight. So it is with a family. None of the family members is identical to any other each is different and at a different level of growth. As in a mobile, you can't arrange one member without thinking of the others.”

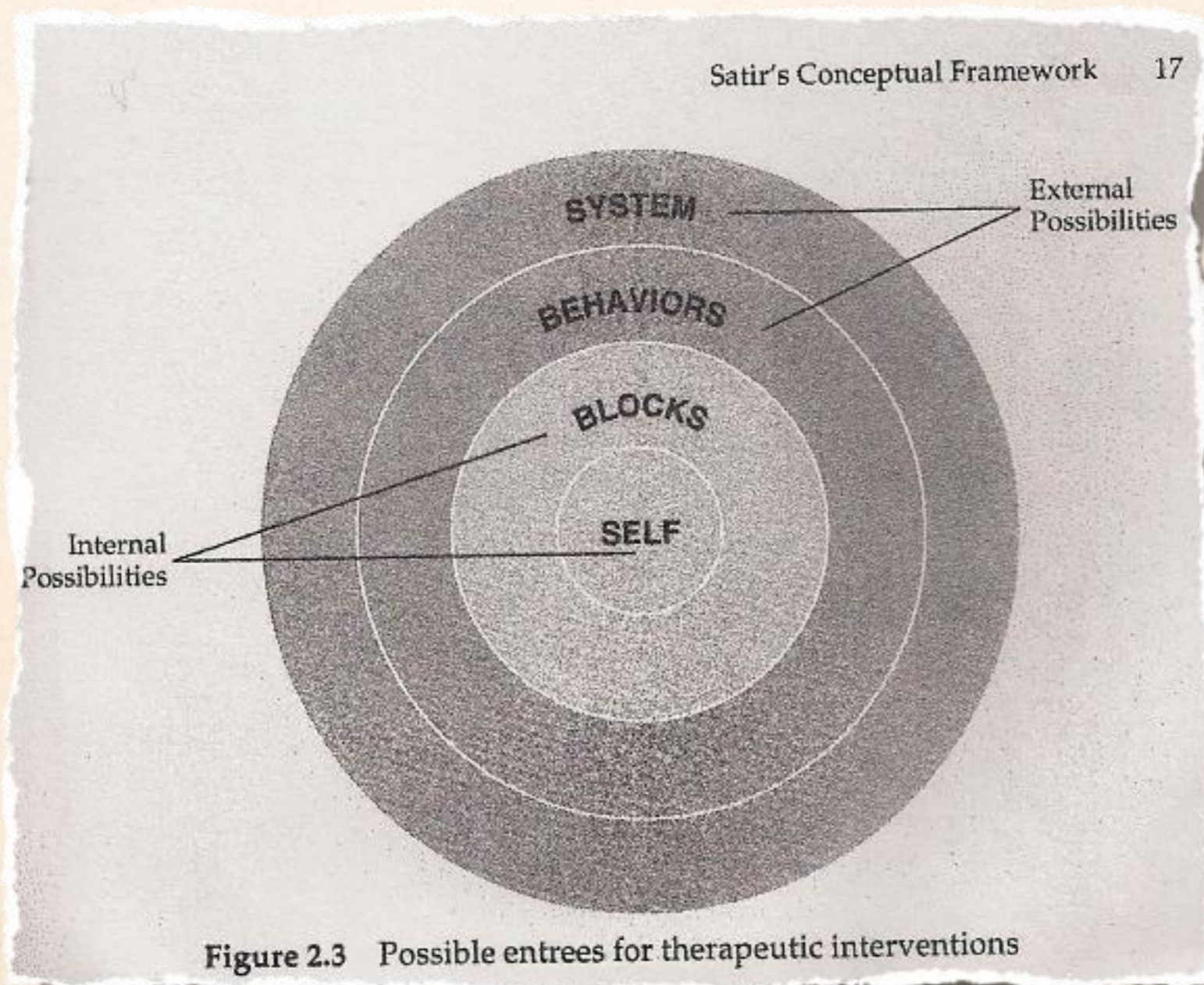
- Virginia Satir, *The New Peoplemaking*

THE CLIENT IS THEIR OWN GREATEST RESOURCE

“I am an
HONORABLE
man because...”



Layer Upon Layer



Innovative Family Services

- ❖ Parent Child Contact Visits
- ❖ Parenting Inside Out Classes
- ❖ Family Transition Circles
- ❖ Individual and Family Therapy

Contact Visits

- ❖ Provide a safe, supportive environment for children to play, hug, and remain connected with their parent during a stressful time
- ❖ Reduce trauma associated with parental separation
- ❖ Support the parent in utilizing skills acquired through classes and therapy

Parenting Inside Out

- ❖ An evidence based cognitive behavioral curriculum designed specifically for justice-involved parents
- ❖ Space for discussion, support, and process
- ❖ Focus on Community and Accountability

One Family Voices

Welcome to the place,
Where I learned to breathe,
To support my children,
Listen and not leave,
To understand tantrums, and the ways that they play
I learned how to communicate, in a child type of way.

I learned to give praise,
For what they achieve, and support them fully in what they believe.

How do I know, what yelling does to the brain
And that it expands when you praise,
And when your child is in the car, with the music blasting loud,
Can not learn a thing, unless mingled in the crowd,

The uneducated, has no where to turn, the way to change stats,
Is you help inmates learn.
Hope will change attitudes,
And percentages no doubt, I changed the way I father,
In parenting inside out.

Family Transition Circles

- ❖ Empower client to take responsibility for the ways in which their behavior and choices have harmed and affected others
- ❖ To make amends and create a plan to make things as right as possible
- ❖ An opportunity for families to voice their experiences, hurt, and hopes in a safe environment

One Family Voices

“I will now give my daughter more opportunity to just cry when she needs to.”

“ I will move along with my son at his pace instead of pushing him.”

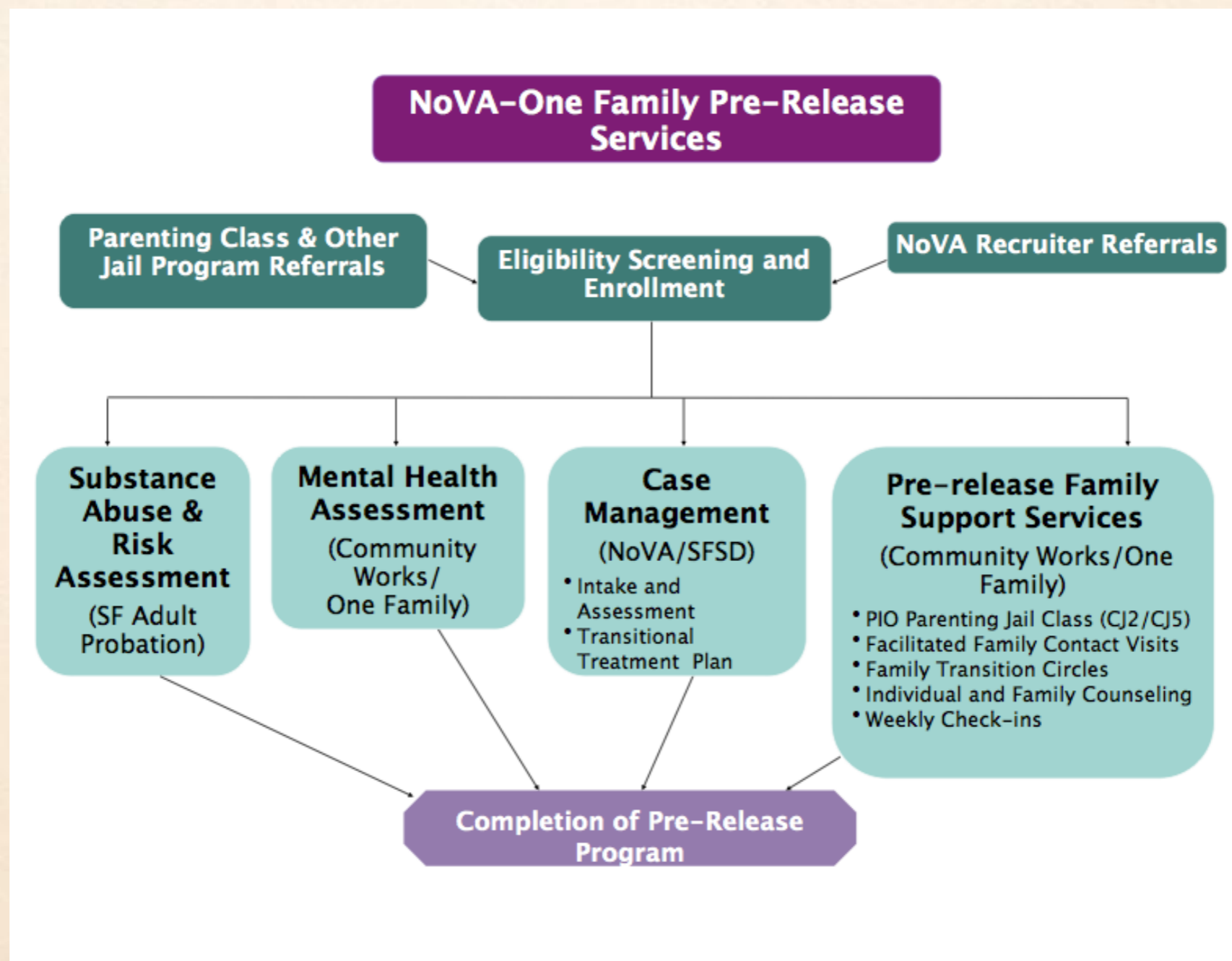
“I will co-parent with my mother-in-law more openly and effectively.”

“The best way you can honor your brother is to begin to heal yourself.”

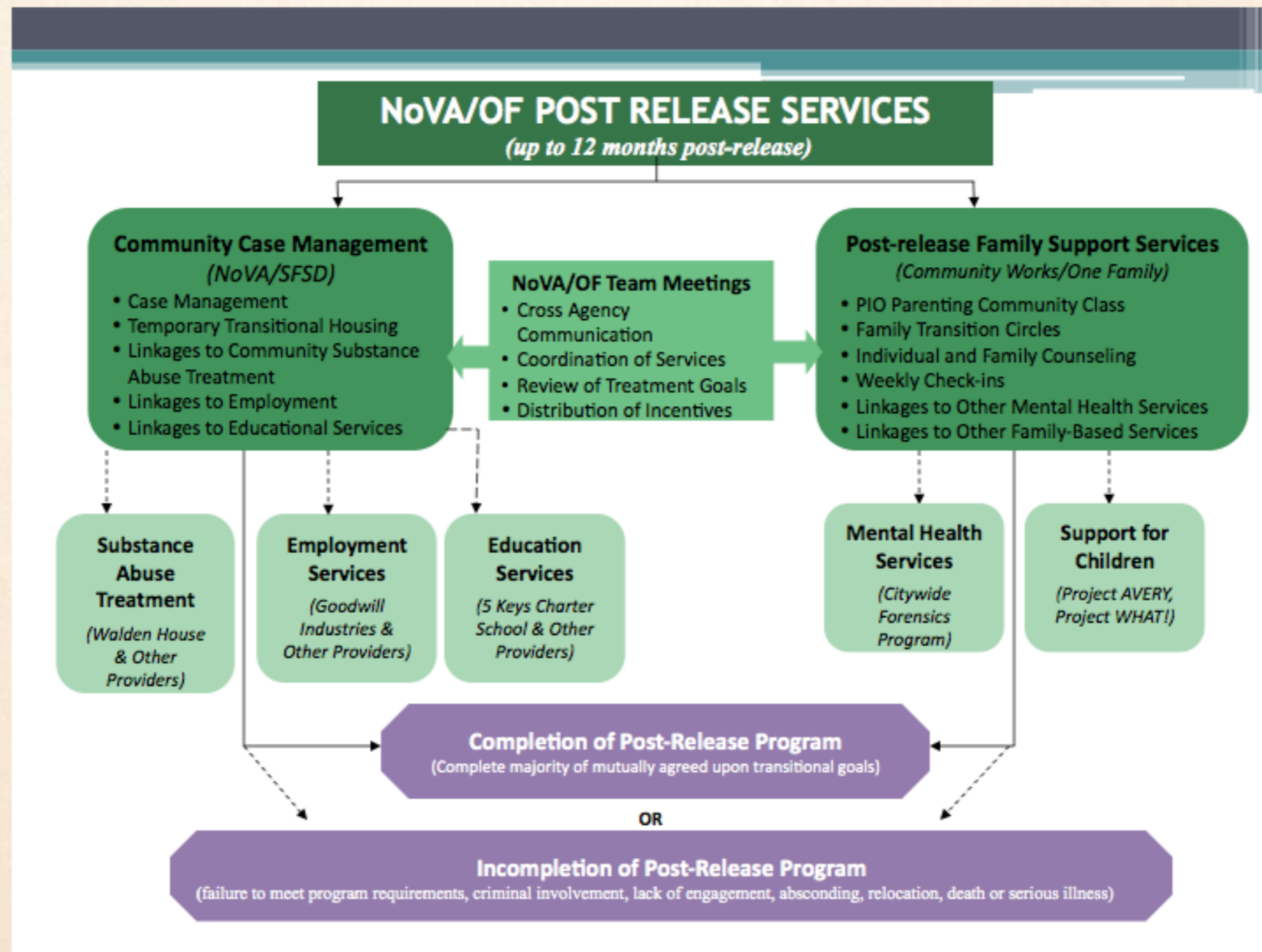
Therapy

- ❖ Incarceration serves as an entry point to begin therapy, but is not seen as an isolated event
- ❖ In depth parenting support
- ❖ Exploration of familial and behavioral patterns
- ❖ Gain new, positive coping skills that can be practiced in real time immediately

Pre Release Services



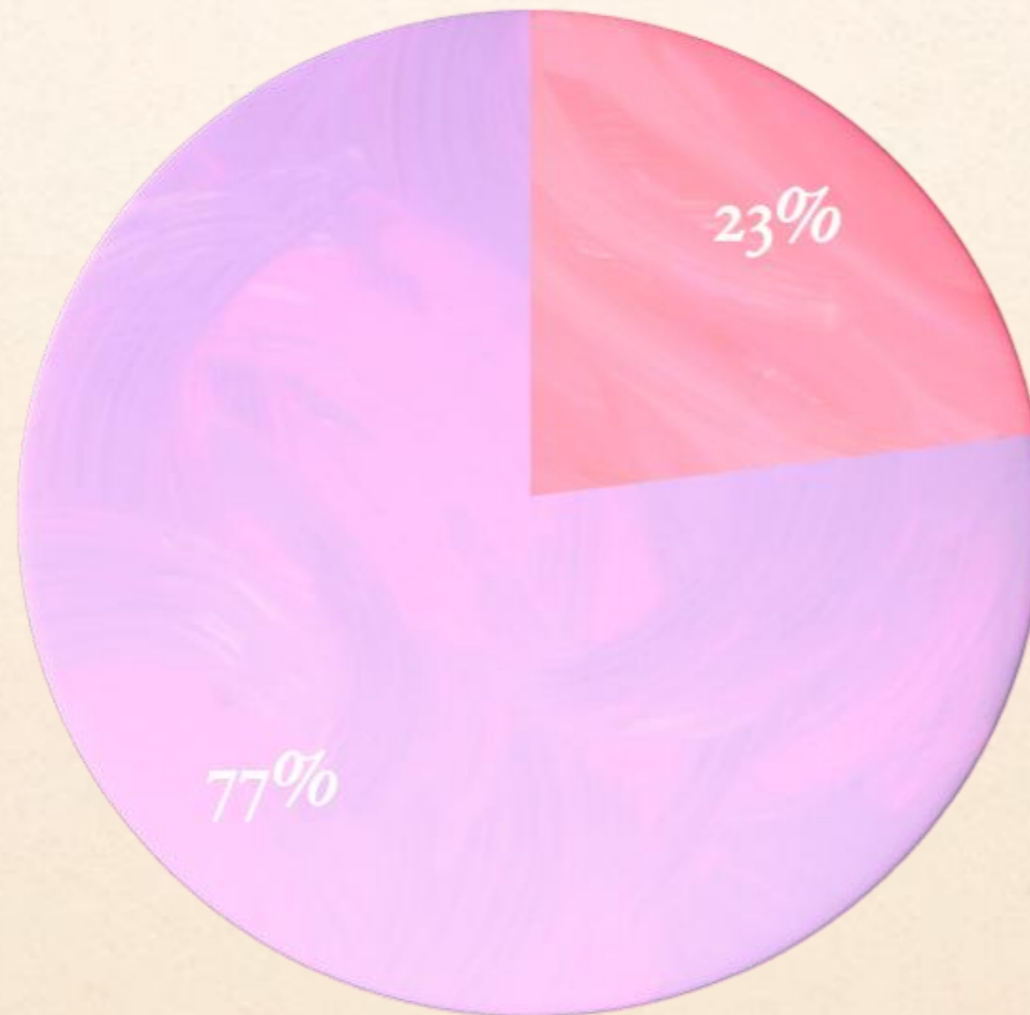
Post Release Services



First NoVA OFRI Cohort N=31

● Female

● Male



Family Focused Service Outcomes

N = 31

Service Component	N	%
Parenting Class in Jail	30	97
Contact Visits in Jail	14	45
Family Ecomap Completed	19	61
Family Focused Therapy and Support	28	90
Restorative Sessions and FTC's	13	42
Parenting Class in Community	7	23

Parenting Class Outcomes

N = 127*

INDICATOR	N	% Increase
Control Emotions	79	62
Use Problem Solving Skills to Resolve Family Issues	75	59
Provide Structure for Children through Routines & Schedules	63	50
Set and Enforce Rules and Consequences with Children	53	42
Involved with Children's School Experiences	43	34
Encourage Child's Strength and Accomplishments	38	30
*indicates both One Family and NoVA OFRI clients		

A Family of Nations

“ I wonder what would happen if suddenly during the night, all five billion persons in the world learned the essentials of congruent living;

...to love, value, and respect themselves fully, to be personally and socially responsible, and to use problems as challenges and opportunities for creative solutions...

I think we would wake up in a different world, a world in which peace is possible.”

One Family Voices

THANK YOU

THANK YOU

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THANK YOU

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