



# "The Connect"

# Presentation Highlights

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By Norman Markland

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By Jose Valencia

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Staff Diversity & Self-Disclosure

By Lyndsie StremLOW

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Events & Programs

By Karen Martinez

# About SKIL & Pivot, Inc.



Supporting Kids  
In Independent  
Living (SKIL)

# Meet the Team



Norman Markland,  
Independent Living  
Services Director



Jose Valencia,  
Education Coordinator



Lyndsie StremLOW,  
Youth Engagement Specialist II  
-Education Coordinator



Karen Martinez  
Youth Engagement Specialist-  
Independent Living



# Ice Breaker

## Your Younger Self

What would you tell your 18-year-old younger self?

What would you tell him/her/them about relationships?

What career advice would you give them?

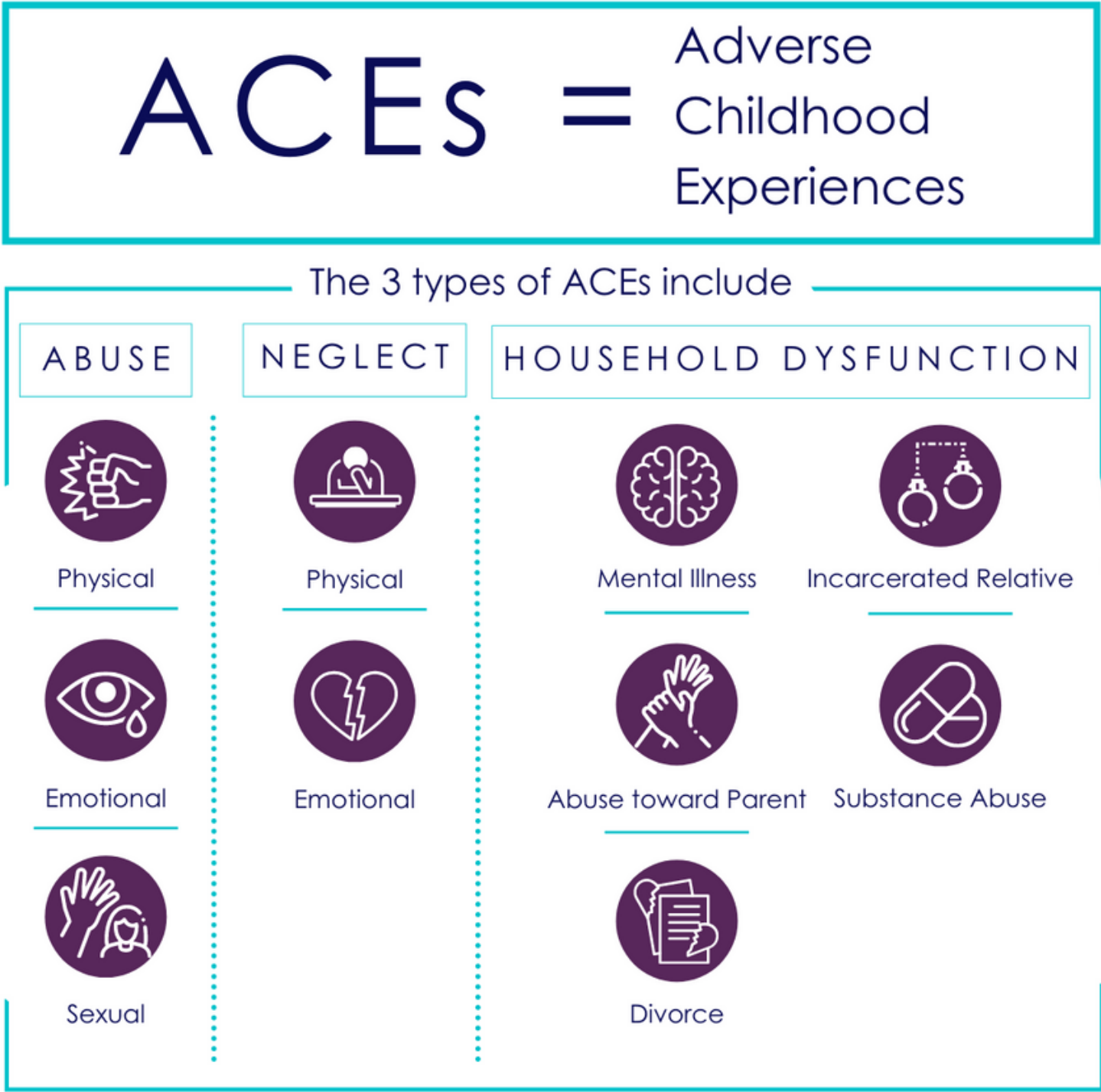
What would you tell them about life?

# Why Community Matters

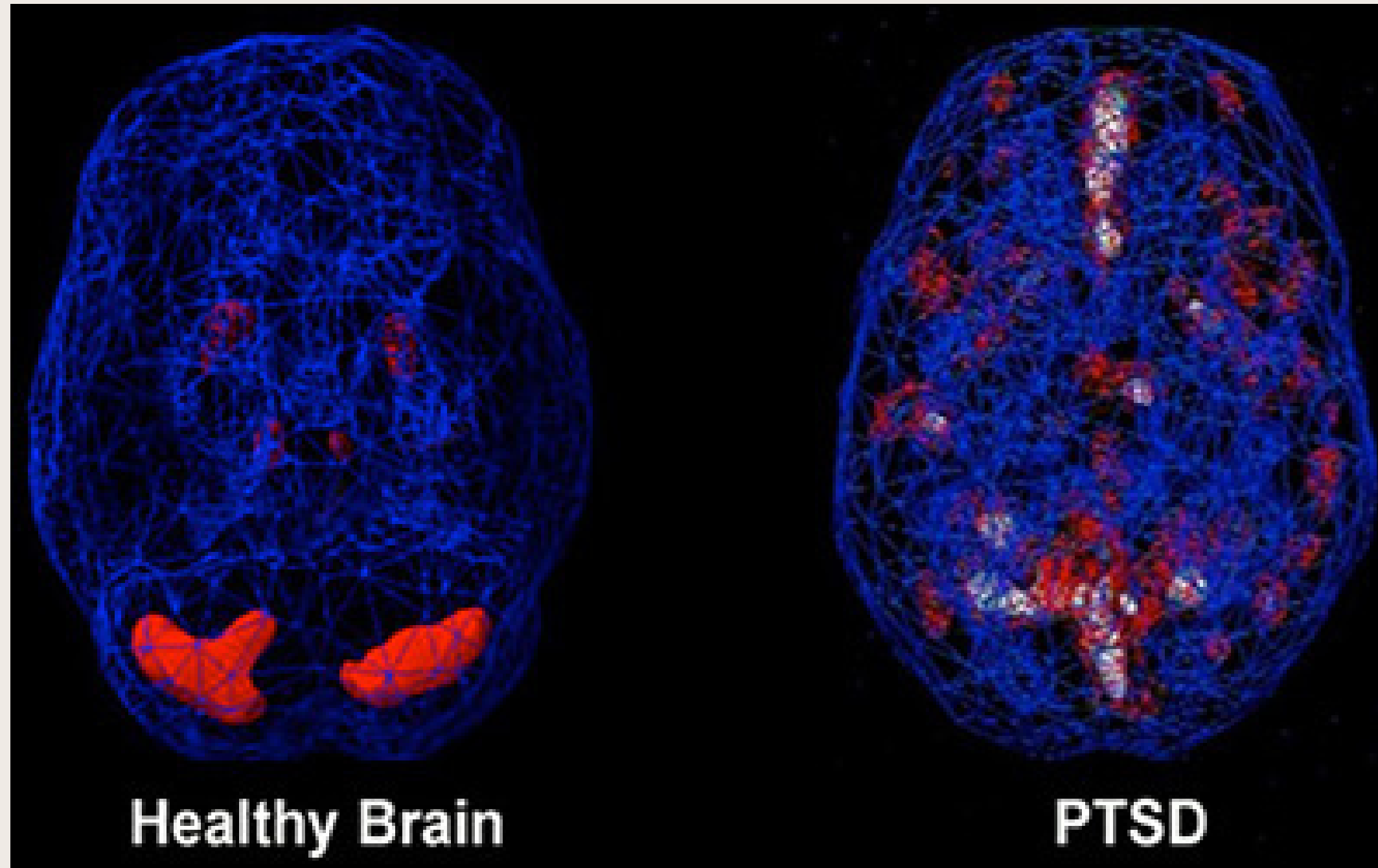
By Norman Markland, LPC  
he/him/his

# ACE = Adverse Childhood Experiences

Why is it important?



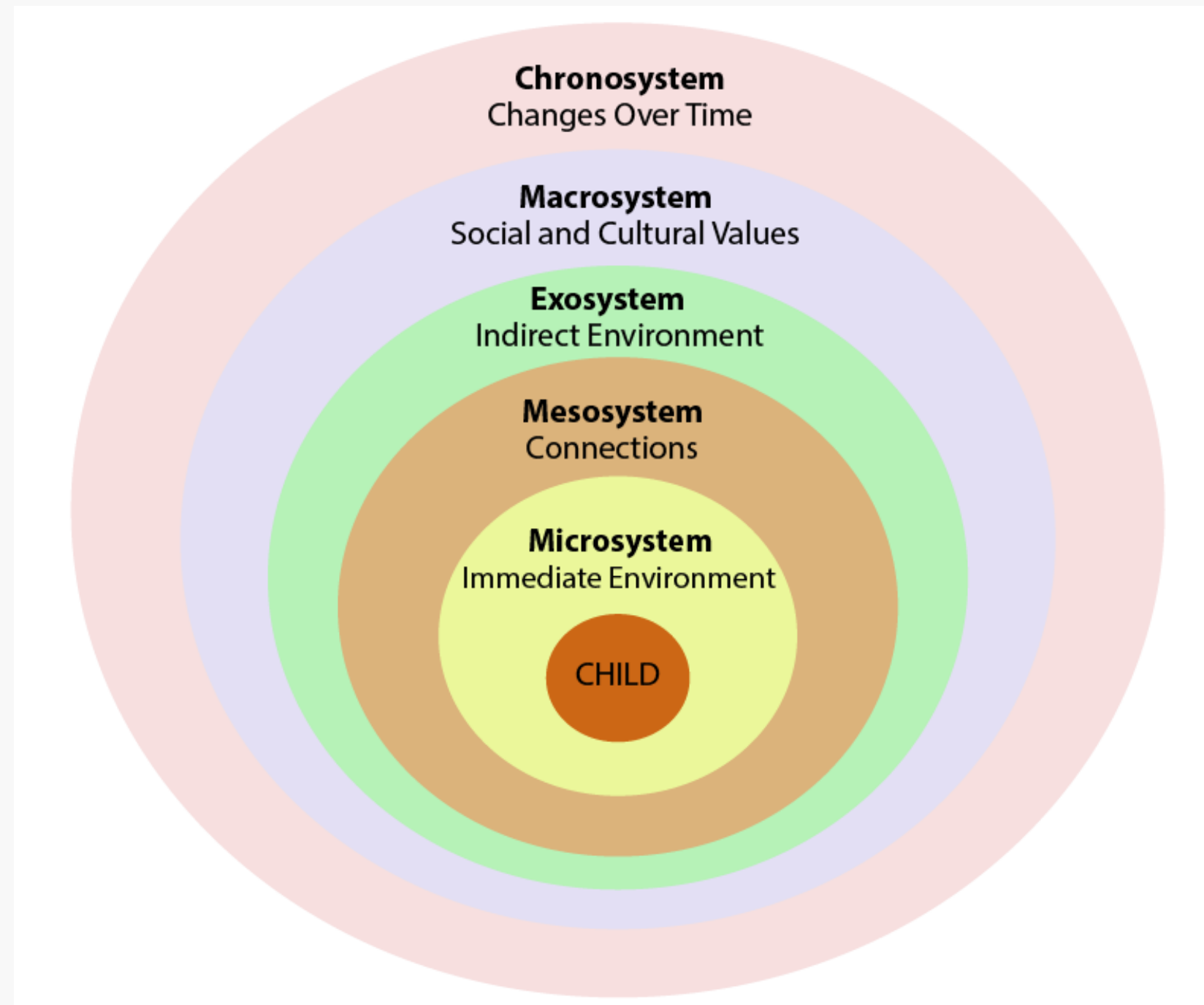
# Can you spot the differences?





# System's Theory to Trauma

## Bronfenbrenner's Ecological Systems Theory



# Community Engagement

By Jose Valencia, B.A., CM I  
he/him/his

# Overview



## Assessments

- Trauma responsive services (TRS) based on Maslow's hierarchy of needs
- Universal Screening

## Housing/ Basic Needs

- Safe and stable housing

## Education

- GED and post-secondary options

## Wellbeing

- Life skills readiness

## Permanenct Connections

- Forming positive, healthy relationships

## Employment

- Financial responsibility

# Referral Process

"It is vital to develop a positive relationship with the school staff, but especially with the young adults we work with." -Jose Valencia



Pivot believes regardless of where a child is from or the barriers they face, they are worthy of having success in education, finding a job and planning for a career in the field they choose. At Pivot part of each young person's experience includes the opportunity to graduate from high school, further their education, gain vital life skills and achieve job readiness.





# My Personal Story

“Si lo puedes soñar, lo puedes lograr.”

"If you can dream it, you can achieve it."





# Self-Disclosure & Staff Diversity

By Lyndsie A. Stremlow, B.A., C.M. II  
she/her/hers

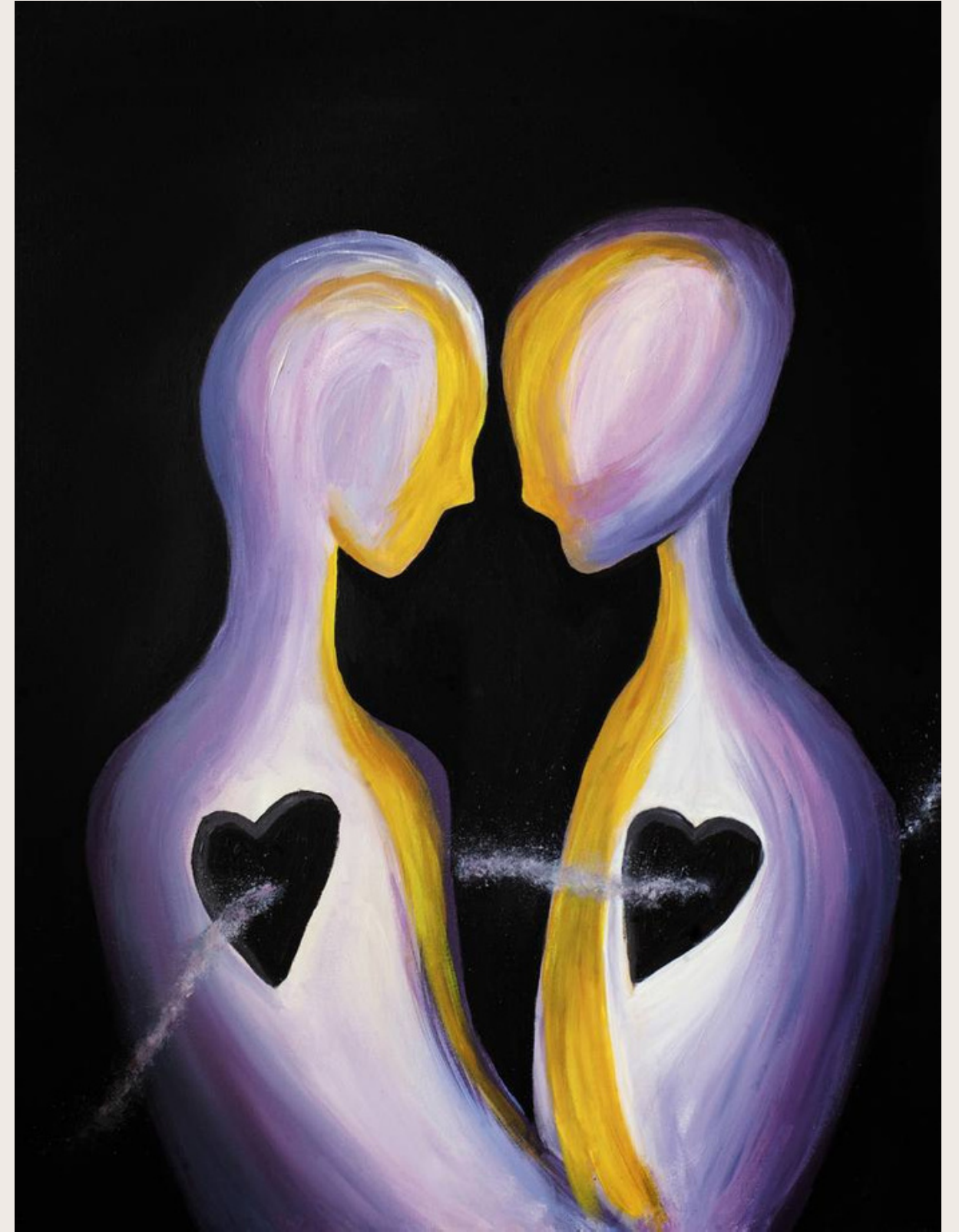
# What they taught me in school



- Why I don't follow the rules
- Chris' Story

# Self- Disclosure:

Make the self known to others, letting others know what you think, feel, and want.



# When is it okay to use self-disclosure with clients?

Breakdown of ethical principles and boundary violations

Table 1		Ethical principles and boundary violations <sup>15</sup>	
Ethical principle		Related boundary violation	
Respect for the dignity of the patient		Taking advantage of the patient	
Respect for patient's healthy goals		Aiming for one's own goals	
Autonomy		Undue influence, coercion	
Self-determination		Fostering dependency	
Fiduciary relationship		Exploitative relationship	
Neutrality		Personal investment	
Abstinence		Intrusion	
Altruism		Use patient for own gratification	
Beneficence		Not acting in patient's interests	
Nonmaleficence		Doing harm to patient	
Compassion		Exploiting patient's vulnerabilities	





# DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION

What is it?

Why is it important at agencies who assist underserved populations?

My story

SKIL AT PIVOT, INC

NEXT →



# "Coming out" as autistic at work

What I thought it  
would feel like



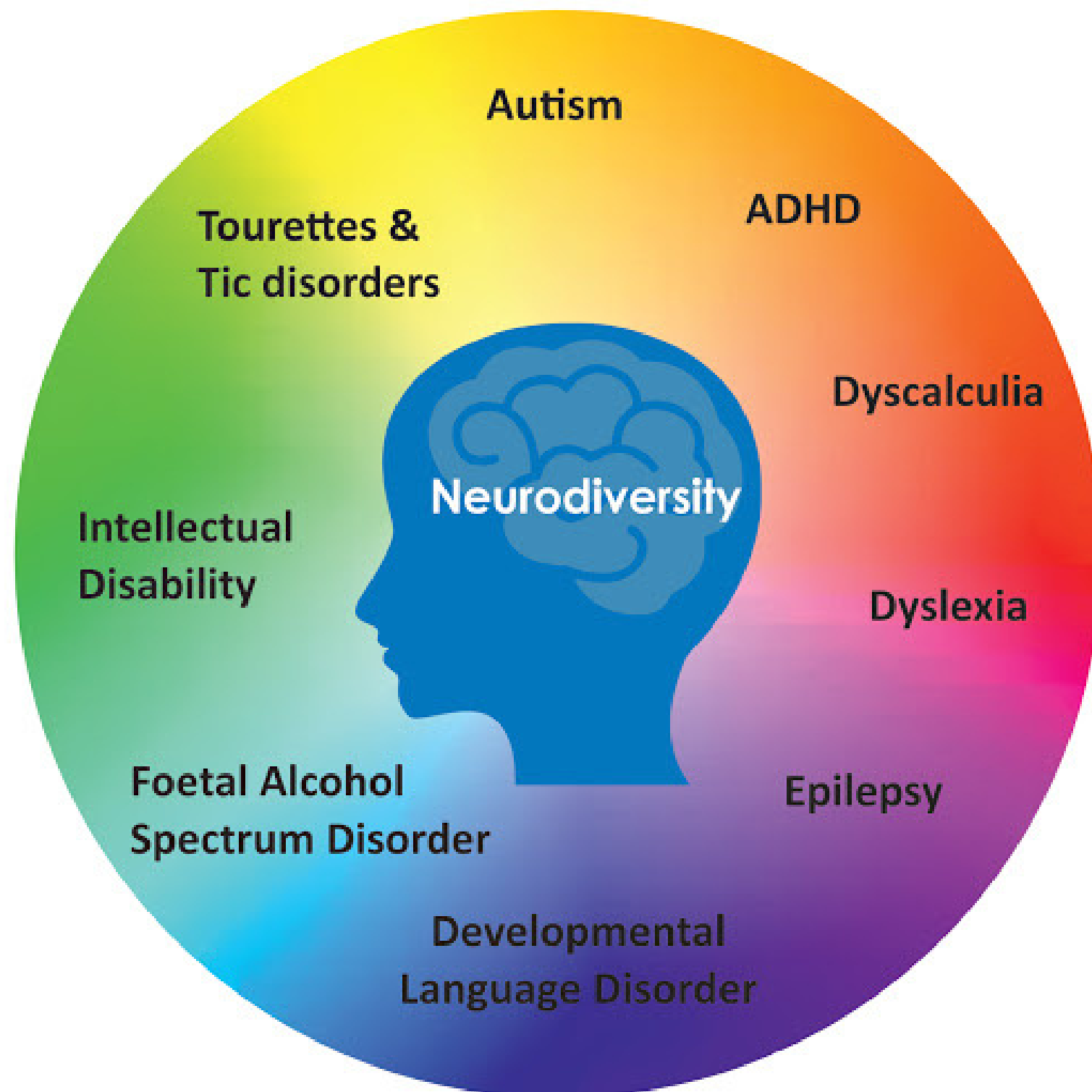
What it actually  
felt like





# Neurodiversity-

The unseen, untapped superpowers right under our nose.



## Autism: the positives

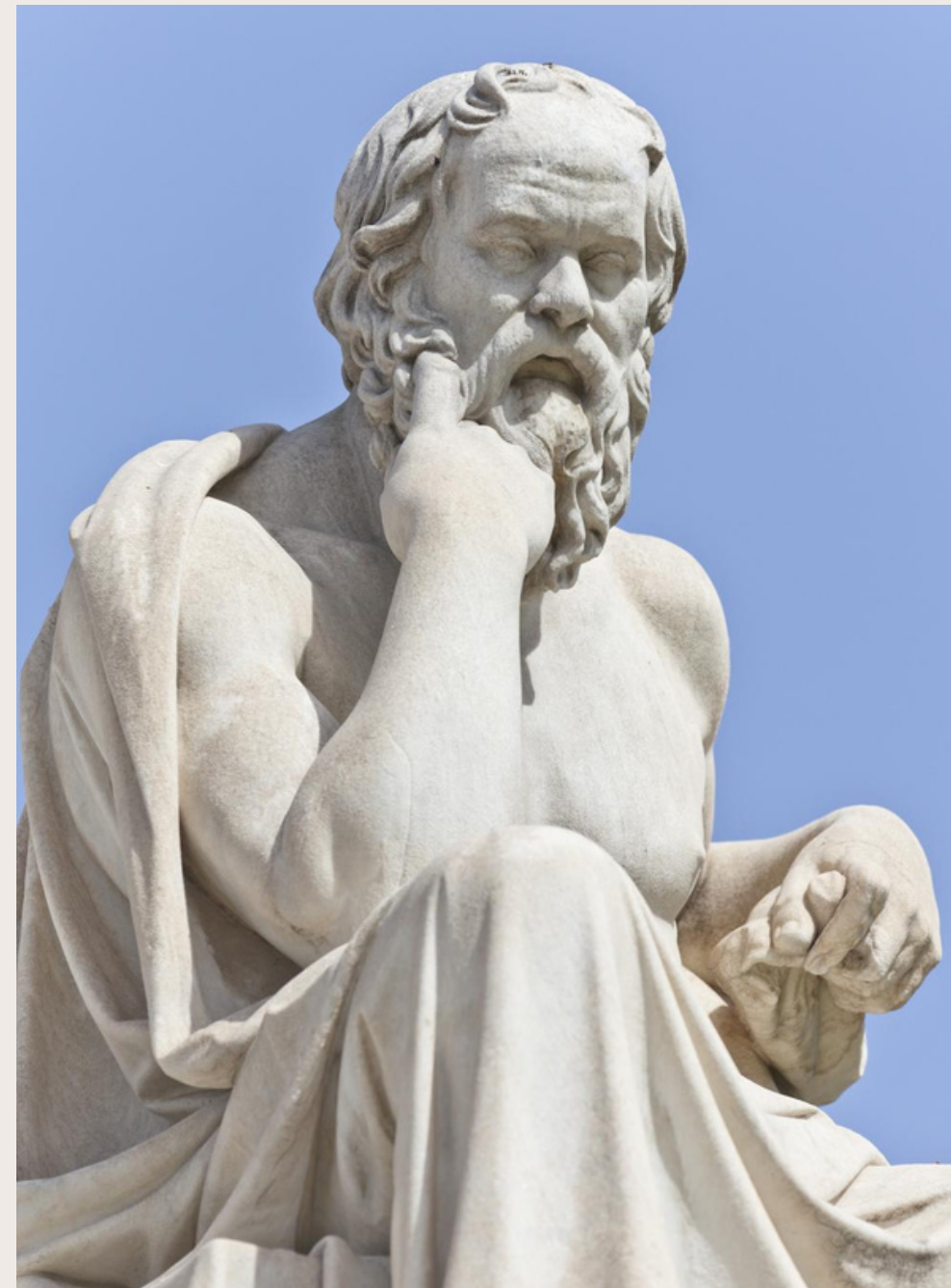
Understanding, embracing and celebrating different ways of thinking and doing can release the true power of the autistic mind. Here we look at the positive features of autism.

 <b>Attention to detail</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Thoroughness</li><li>• Accuracy</li></ul>	 <b>Methodical approach</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Analytical</li><li>• Spotting patterns, repetition</li></ul>
 <b>Deep focus</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Concentration</li><li>• Freedom from distraction</li></ul>	 <b>Novel approaches</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Unique thought processes</li><li>• Innovative solutions</li></ul>
 <b>Observational skills</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Listen, look, learn approach</li><li>• Fact finding</li></ul>	 <b>Creativity</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Distinctive imagination</li><li>• Expression of ideas</li></ul>
 <b>Absorb and retain facts</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Excellent long term memory</li><li>• Superior recall</li></ul>	 <b>Tenacity and resilience</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Determination</li><li>• Challenge opinions</li></ul>
 <b>Visual skills</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Visual learning and recall</li><li>• Detail-focussed</li></ul>	 <b>Accepting of difference</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Less likely to judge others</li><li>• May question norms</li></ul>
 <b>Expertise</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• In-depth knowledge</li><li>• High level of skills</li></ul>	 <b>Integrity</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Honesty, loyalty</li><li>• Commitment</li></ul>

**Remember**

Every experience of autism is **unique**. No one person will identify with every positive feature of autism. We all have **individual** skills, attributes and characteristics that are as unique as our personalities – this is the **power of neurodiversity**.

**Mentoring  
others while  
walking the  
path to  
wholeness.**



Be as you wish  
to seem.  
-Socrates



# Takeaway

"What works best is anything that increases the quality and number of relationships in a child's life.

People, not programs, change people."

- Dr. Bruce Perry



# Events & Programs

By Karen Martinez, B.A., C.M. I  
she/her/hers

# Service Plans

## Goals

- Assessments
- Building towards youth's goals
- Preparing them for their future





# Engagement

## Groups

- Formal groups
- Informal groups
- Direct effects





# Healthy Relationship Skills

## Permanent Connections

- Boundaries and consent
- Building community
- Positive vs negative influences
- Mentorship
- Self Awareness



# INDEPENDENT LIVING

## LOGIC MODEL

### INPUTS

- **Staff**
- **Trainings**
- **Preparing Adolescents for Young Adulthood (PAYA) Curriculum**
- **Assessments**
  - Universal Screening
  - ACE
  - PACE
  - Ansel Casey
  - TAY-VI-SPDAT

### OUTPUTS

#### Wellbeing

- Hygiene
- Coping Skills
- Self-Regulation
- Communication Skills
- Boundaries/ Consent
- Sexual Health

#### Employment

- Resume Building
- Interview Skills
- Proper Interview Attire
- Job Stability
- Banking & Financial Services
- Credit Cards
- Credit Scores
- Navigation of Bus System

#### Permanent Connections

- Healthy Relationships
- Conflict Resolution
- Mentoring
- Community

#### Housing

- How to Find Housing
- Money Management (Budgeting)
- Meal Planning
- Home Management (Housekeeping)
- Community Resources (and how to find them)

#### Education

- Learn Study Skills
- College Prep Skills
- Graduate High School
- Trade School/ College/Military Services

### OUTCOMES

#### Short Term Results

- Complete two independent living goals
- Develop conflict resolution skills
- Find employment
- Develop proper hygiene skills

#### Medium Term Results

- Establish two permanent connections
- Become familiar with potential housing opportunities
- Know how to budget income

#### Long Term Results

- Self- Sufficiency
- Achieve Housing
- Financial Stability
- Community Resource Awareness
- Knowledgeable of bus system



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