The Power of Today

Katina Randle Howard
You cannot escape the responsibility of tomorrow by evading it today.

Abraham Lincoln
If we care about vulnerable children who have been victims of abuse and neglect, we have to care about and change the way we treat children in our criminal justice system. They are the same children.
Gladys Carrion, Director, New York State Office of Children and Family Services

We could send [a juvenile justice youth] to Harvard for [what we pay for incarceration], and we don't get very good outcomes.


No convincing evidence exists that confinement of juvenile offenders beyond the time needed to deliver intensive services reduces the likelihood of reoffending.
Cost of confinement vs education

- 6 months
- 1 year
- 4 years

Incarceration

In-State Tuition

Out of State Tuition

Private or Non-profit

$0

$250,000

$500,000

$750,000

$1,000,000

$1,250,000
Yesterday

Trauma
What my family did

Isolation
A "safer" controlled space

Beliefs
Building blocks to my future
SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH

- Socioeconomic Factors
  - Education
  - Job Status
  - Family/Social Support
  - Income
  - Community Safety
  - 50% can be traced back to your zip code!

- Physical Environment
  - Tobacco Use
  - Diet & Exercise
  - Alcohol Use
  - Sexual Activity

- Health Behaviors
  - Only 20% include those moments in a healthcare environment
Theory of Ecological Human Development

Urie Bronfenbrenner's theory suggests the following:

- Teaches us that a child develops through interactions with their social environments.
- Families, peer groups, schools, neighborhoods, after-school groups, faith groups, and the many other social settings that a child experiences will promote or hinder their development. The relationships between each of these entities will play a separate and unique role.
WHY Character Development is so important...

- Options
- Decision Making
- Life Long Impact
HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS

- respect
  - listen to your partner
  - value your partner’s opinion
  - pay attention to your partner

- fairness & negotiation
  - accept change
  - compromise
  - work to find solutions

- intimacy
  - do not pressure your partner
  - respect boundaries
  - be faithful

- honesty & responsibility
  - don’t make excuses for your actions
  - admit when you’re wrong
  - keep your word

- trust & support
  - want the best for your partner
  - offer encouragement
  - have other friends

- open communication
  - express all feelings
  - know it’s okay to disagree

- physical affection
  - respect the right to say no
  - ask before doing
  - hold hands & hug

- shared responsibility
  - make decisions together
  - give as much as you receive
  - do things for each other
5 methods of Character Development

1. Physical Description
2. Action
3. Inner Thoughts
4. Reactions
5. Speech
Be Impecable with your word
Don't take anything personal
Don't make assumptions
Always do your best

The 4 Agreements
by Don Miguel Ruiz
TODAY

- Opposite from our past
- In the present moment
- Opportunities and Possibilities
- Evaluate your choices
- New Beginning
Thank You for being a part of the solution!