Client Vignette (Slide 12)

Angel is a 22 year old Latinx male who was recently released from a 1 year sentence in jail for drug possession charges. Angel was involved with the juvenile justice system when he was younger and was in foster care several times throughout his youth. Angel is the oldest of 5 siblings. His mother struggled to provide a stable home environment and had all her kids removed at various times due to various neglect and abuse substantiated allegations. Angel is now on parole. Angel is the father of a 2 year old son who lives in a foster home. His son's mother has an on and off again relationship with Angel and she has ongoing drug use issues. Angel admits to using drugs since he was about 14 years old. He is trying to stay clean and attend NA meetings for support. He has a sponsor who he describes as "like an uncle" to him. Angel sometimes stays with his mother and sometimes with his son's mother and her family at their apartment. Angel is seeking work and works with a case manager at a local employment resource center. Angel is in counseling and works with a county social worker because he wants to get custody of his son. Angel feels angry that the judge wants to keep his son from him and let someone else adopt the little boy.

Victor

(Rate Mother in Caregiver domain)

Victor is a 7-year-old, Latinx boy living with his mother and step-father. Victor usually gets along well with his mother, but does not really like his step-father, and so he does not spend much time in his presence. Victor has been throwing aggressive tantrums lately, and his mother is concerned about his behavior. Victor has also been acting out at school, throwing tantrums and hitting other kids in his class. This has caused Victor to lose some friends at school, and many other children do not want to be around him. At recess Victor's classmates usually play catch or tag, but Victor has taken to storming around the playground shouting and looking for fights. Lately Victor has had trouble sleeping, he has been wetting the bed nearly every night, and having terrible nightmares about a man sneaking into his room.

Victor's mother keeps a close eye on him because of his recent aggressive tendencies. She says that she needs new ideas for discipline, because the usual time-outs are not working anymore. Victor's biological dad sexually abused Victor for years without his mother knowing. When Victor's mother found out she left her husband and immediately sought help for Victor. She is open to bringing Victor back to therapy, but isn't sure if that is what he needs. Mother tries to do what she can for Victor, but occasionally becomes overwhelmed at work and forgets to return calls regarding Victor's appointments, or misses meetings with teachers. Victor's aunt lives in the same city. His mother is not close with this aunt, but is considering asking for her help with Victor when she is too busy with work. Victor has lived in three different apartments in the past year, as his mother has a hard time coming up with rent, and keeps getting evicted. Victor's behavioral problems have caused his mother a lot of stress. She is often up with him in the night changing his bedding, and dealing with his tantrums all evening and morning. She is finding it difficult to concentrate at work.
Victor has been starting a lot of fights at school, and needs some assistance in developing healthy friendships. When he doesn't get his way on the playground, he often pushes or kicks his peers. Victor has trouble seeing the good in things that he used to enjoy, and instead focuses on the negative side of everything. Victor's teacher has talked with his mom on the phone a few times to discuss behavioral plans for Victor. Many of Victor's classmates play in the city's hockey league, and Victor has expressed interest in joining this league. When his mother confronts him about his aggressive behavior, Victor denies it, and says that he is always friendly and nice.
Victor's mother has had to stop taking Victor with her to run errands, because he intentionally gets himself into trouble by throwing tantrums in the grocery store, yelling at strangers in the bank, etc. Victor's behavior at school seems impulsive, as he pushes kids without reason, and shouts things out in class. Victor doesn't listen to his teachers when they ask him to stop, and his behavior is stressing the staff and students.