# **Substance Abuse Module (4)**

**Question to Consider for this Module:** What are the details of the individual's substance abuse? **Please rate the highest level from the past 30 days.** 

## SEVERITY OF USE - This item rates the frequency and severity of the individual's current substance use.

#### **Questions to Consider**

- → Is the individual currently using substances? If so, how frequently?
- → Is there evidence of physical dependence on substances?

# **Ratings & Definitions**

- Individual is currently abstinent and has maintained abstinence for at least six months.
- Individual is currently abstinent but only in the past 30 days or individual has been abstinent for more than 30 days but is living in an environment that makes substance use difficult.
- 2 Individual actively uses alcohol or drugs but not daily.
- Individual uses alcohol and/or drugs on a daily basis.

# DURATION OF USE - This item identifies the length of time that the individual has been using drugs or alcohol.

#### **Questions to Consider**

→ How long as the individual been using drugs and/or alcohol?

#### **Ratings & Definitions**

- **0** Individual has begun use in the past year.
- 1 Individual has been using alcohol or drugs for at least one year but has had periods of at least 30 days where s/he did not have any use.
- 2 Individual has been using alcohol or drugs for at least one year (but less than five years), but not daily.
- Individual has been using alcohol or drugs daily for more than the past year or intermittently for at least five years.

# STAGE OF RECOVERY - This item identifies where the individual is in his/her recovery process.

## **Questions to Consider**

→ In relation to stopping substance use, at what stage of change is the individual?

## **Ratings & Definitions**

- Individual is in maintenance stage of recovery. Individual is abstinent and able to recognize and avoid risk factors for future alcohol or drug use.
- 1 Individual is actively trying to use treatment to remain abstinent.
- 2 Individual is in contemplation phase, recognizing a problem but not willing to take steps for recovery.
- 2 Individual is in denial regarding the existence of any substance use problem.

## Supplemental information: Motivational interviewing describes the Stages of Change as a continuum -

- Pre-contemplation: Not currently considering change
- Contemplation: Ambivalent about change
- Preparation: Some experience with change/trying to change
- Action: Practicing change
- Maintenance: Continued commitment to sustaining new behavior
- Relapse: Resumption of old behaviors

PEER INFLUENCES - This item identifies the impact that the individual's social group has on his/her substance use.

## **Questions to Consider**

→ What role do the individual's peers play in his/her alcohol and drug use?

## **Ratings & Definitions**

- $\begin{tabular}{ll} \bf 0 & Individual's \ primary \ peer \ social \ network \ does \ not \ engage \ in \ alcohol \ or \ drug \ use. \end{tabular}$
- 1 Individual has peers in his/her primary peer social network who do not engage in alcohol or drug use but has some peers who do.
- 2 Individual predominantly has peers who engage in alcohol or drug use but individual is not a member of a gang.
- 3 Individual is a member of a peer group that consistently engages in alcohol or drug use.

**PARENTAL INFLUENCES** - This item rates the parent's/caregiver's use of drugs or alcohol with or in the presence of the individual.

#### **Questions to Consider**

→ Does the parent(s) use substances? If so, does the parent's use impact the individual's use??

## **Ratings & Definitions**

- ${\bf 0}$  There is no evidence that individual's parents have ever engaged in substance abuse.
- 1 One of individual's parents has history of substance abuse but not in the past year.
- One or both of individual's parents have been intoxicated with alcohol or drugs in the presence of the individual.
- One or both of individual's parents use alcohol or drugs with the individual.

**ENVIRONMENTAL INFLUENCES** - This item rates the impact of the individual's community environment on his/her alcohol and drug use.

# **Questions to Consider**

Are there factors in the individual's community that impacts the individual's alcohol and drug use?

# **Ratings & Definitions**

- No evidence that the individual's environment stimulates or exposes the individual to any alcohol or drug use.
- Mild problems in the individual's environment that might expose the individual to alcohol or drug use.
- Moderate problems in the individual's environment that clearly expose the individual to alcohol or drug use.
- Severe problems in the individual's environment that stimulate the individual to engage in alcohol or drug.

**RECOVERY SUPPORT IN COMMUNITY** – This describes the individual's participation in recovery programs such as AA, NA, or other types of recovery groups or activities that are community based.

#### **Questions to Consider**

- → Does individual attend Young Peoples AA or NA or similar meetings? Does individual participate in sober living housing community or spend time in sober spaces?
- → Does individual have sponsor or recovery coach?

# **Ratings & Definitions**

- No problems with maintaining social connectivity through recovery support groups or activities. Individual attends recovery support groups and meetings regularly.
- 1 Mild problems with maintaining social connectivity through recovery support groups or activities. Individual may attend meetings irregularly.
- Moderate problems with maintaining social connectivity through recovery support groups or activities. Individual has attended recovery support groups in the past but is no longer attending meetings.
- Severe problems with maintaining social connectivity through recovery support groups or activities. Individual has never participated in recovery support groups or activities.