

FOSTERING CHOICE, VOICE, AND BELONGING THROUGH PERSON-CENTERED PATHWAYS



Go The Distance!



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The Learning Community for Person Centered Practices

We envision a world where all people have positive control over the lives they have chosen for themselves. Our efforts focus on people who have lost or may lose positive control because of society's response to the presence of a disability or other conditions. This site helps us foster a global learning community that shares knowledge for that purpose. All are welcome here to share and learn.

Person-Centered Thinking: Setting the Stage for Learning



When Does WHAT You Say Matter?

- Are we using words that demean or empower others?
- How is the language we use impacting people's status in their communities?
- Is our language contributing to diminished personal or community capacity?



Changing Our Language Changes the Power

“Staff” (powerful) & “Individual” (not powerful) = Power **OVER**
OR

“Person to person” (equity and respect) = Power **WITH**



Learning about Support: Common Traps

Power OVER

- Assuming the person needs help
- Making choices for a person without asking, “I know best.”
- Answering questions for a person who is with you
- Bribing someone to get them to do what you want
- Using shame or fear to manage behavior: “Why would you do such a thing?”
- Talking about the person as if they aren't in the room
- Punishing the person for making mistakes

Power WITH

- Redirecting questions to the person when others ask you or someone else
- Asking, not assuming a person needs help
- Positive comments, helpful statements, and praise for actions: “Wow, that is great work”
- Listening and asking, “Please tell me more” or “I am listening, take your time.”
- Promoting chances for making choices and decisions
- Asking follow up questions, paraphrasing for understanding, “It's hard when people misunderstand us”

Language Frameworks

Person First

- Emphasizes the **person** before the disability.

Identity First

- **Wording** about a person that **leads** with disability.

Ableism

- Refers to **words** that spread **negative stereotypes** about people with disabilities.



SPECIAL NEEDS?



Share Needs, Not Diagnosis

REFRAME



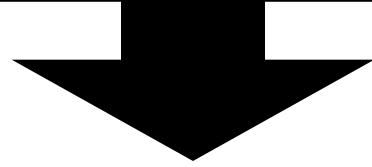
He needs behavior supports.

She communicates with...

He learns through activities.

She needs assistance with...

Reframe
Deficits or Problems



GIFTS

ASSETS

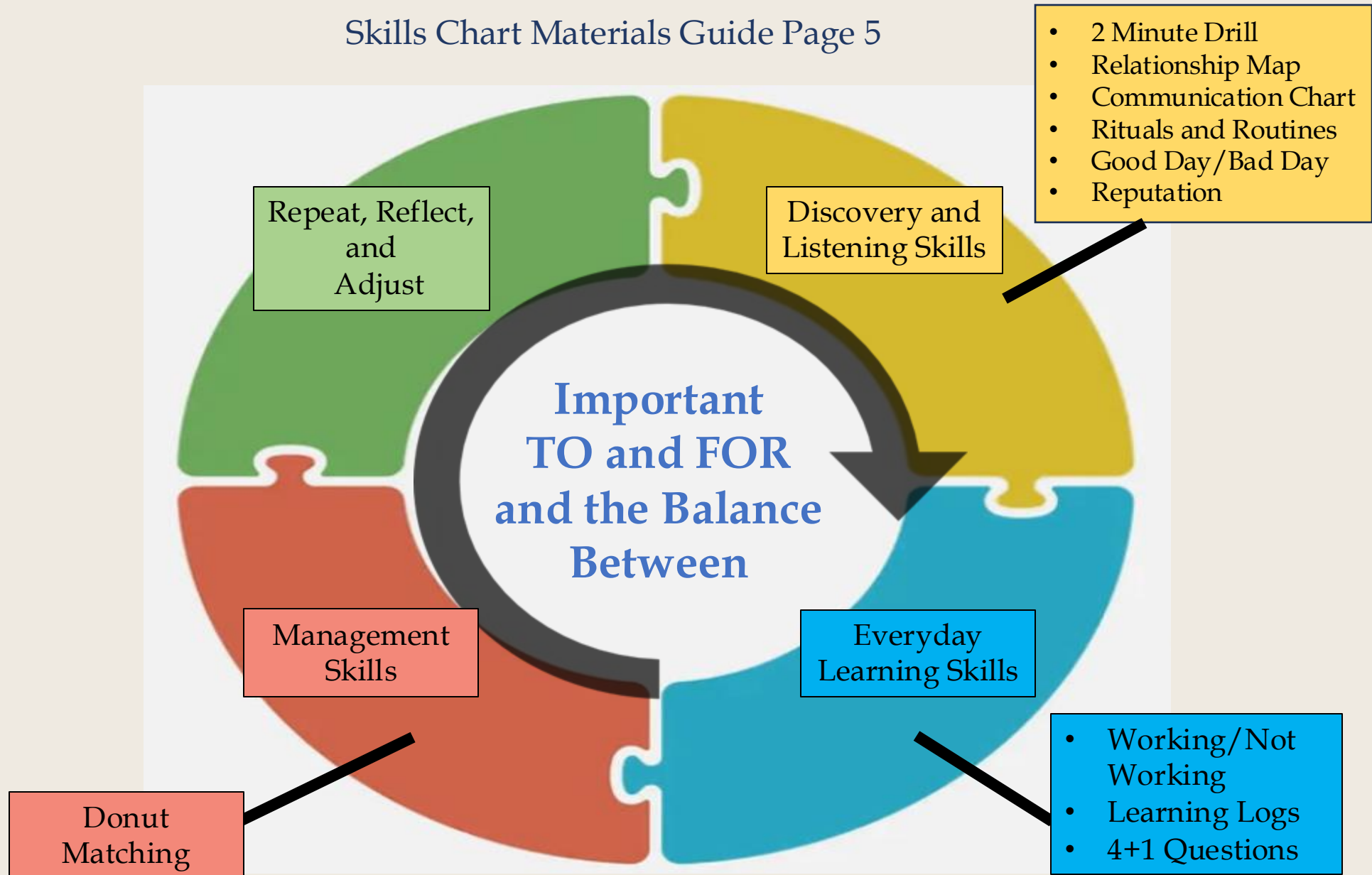
STRENGTHS



**Every trait or behavior
is NOT
a consequence
of the disability!**



Slow Moving Vehicle



Important To and For and the Balance Between



Important TO

What is important TO a person includes those things in life which help us to be satisfied, content, comforted, fulfilled, and happy.

It includes:

- People to be with/relationships
- Culture & identity
- Purpose and meaning
- Status and control
- Things to do and places to go
- Rituals or routines
- Rhythm or pace of life
- Things to have

Important TO a Person

- Includes what matters the most to a person; their own definition of quality of life
- What is important TO a person includes only what people “say”:
 - with their words
 - with their behavior

When words and behavior are in conflict,
pay attention to the behavior and ask “why?”

Important FOR:



Health

- Prevention of illness
- Treatment of illness/medical conditions
- Promotion of wellness (e.g.: diet, exercise)

Safety

- Environment
- Well-being (physical and emotional)
- Freedom from fear

Value

- Feeling valued
- Empowered to be a contributing member of their communities

Promoting Positive Control

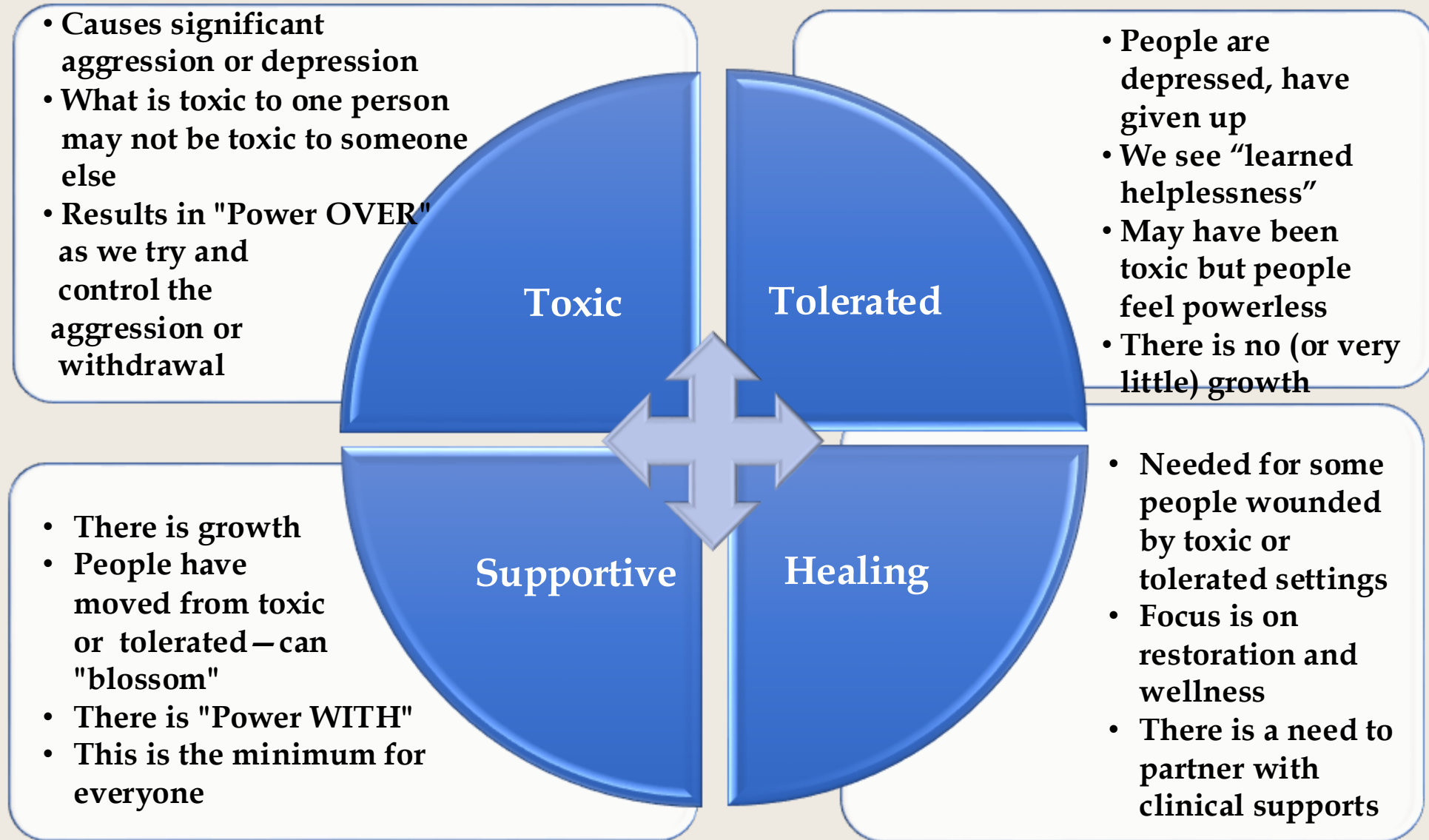
The Learning Community for Person-Centered Practices envisions a world where all people have positive control over the lives they have chosen for themselves.



Each of us wants to live where we can be supported by & contribute to our communities



Importance of Environments



Implementation of Person-Centered Practices is a Set of PROMISES

A Promise To Listen

- Listen to what is being said and what is meant by what is being said
- Keep listening

A Promise To Act on What We Hear

- Always find something that we can do today or tomorrow
- Keep acting on what we hear

A Promise To Be Honest

- To let people know when what they are telling us will take time
- When we do not know how to help them get what they are asking for
- When what the person is telling us is in conflict with staying healthy or safe and we can't find a good balance between important TO and important FOR



**What you see
and/or hear
depends on
what you are
looking and
listening for**

Important To and For Are Connected

- Important TO and Important FOR influence each other.
- It's not Important TO vs. Important FOR. Both are important.
- No one does anything that is “Important FOR” them (willingly) unless a piece of it is “Important TO” them.

Balance is dynamic (changing) and always involves trade-offs:

- Among the things that are “Important TO” and
- Between Important TO and FOR

And
BALANCE
requires a
degree of
RISK...

 **OKLAHOMA** 
USA **DRIVER LICENSE**

SAMPLE

4d Lic. No. **A123456789** 4b Exp **01/12/2022**
3 DOB **01/12/1967**
1 **SAMPLE**
2 **NICK**
8 **123 STATE ST.**
OKLAHOMA CITY, OK 73102-1234

9 Class **D** 4a Iss **03/19/2018**
9a End **NONE**
12 Restr **NONE**

15 Sex **M** 17 Wgt **185 lb**
18 Eyes **BRO** 16 Hgt **5'-08"**
5 DD **A1234567890112670319180**

Nick Sample





The best PLACE for a kid to
learn how to live in the Real
World is in...



OUR Real Life Journey

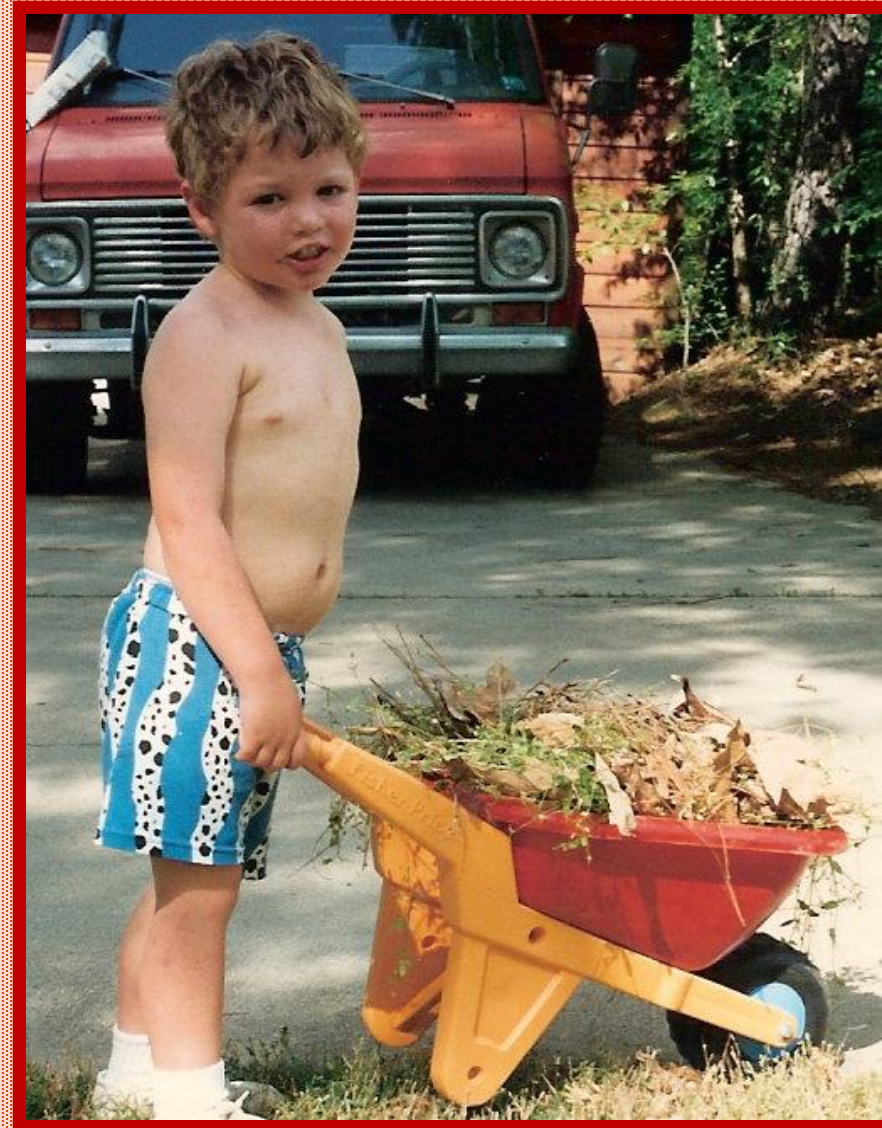


In-School Predictors by Post-School Outcome Area



Predictors/Outcomes	Education	Employment	Independent Living
Academic/General Education	x		
Career Awareness	x	x	
Community Experiences			x
Exit Exam Requirements/High School Diploma Status	x		
Interagency Collaboration	x		
Occupational Courses		x	x
Paid Work Experience*		x	x
Parental Involvement	x		x
School Integration	x	x	x

Pay attention to what gets his attention. It starts early!



Advocate for real work experience.



Augment exploitable resources.



Augment exploitable resources.



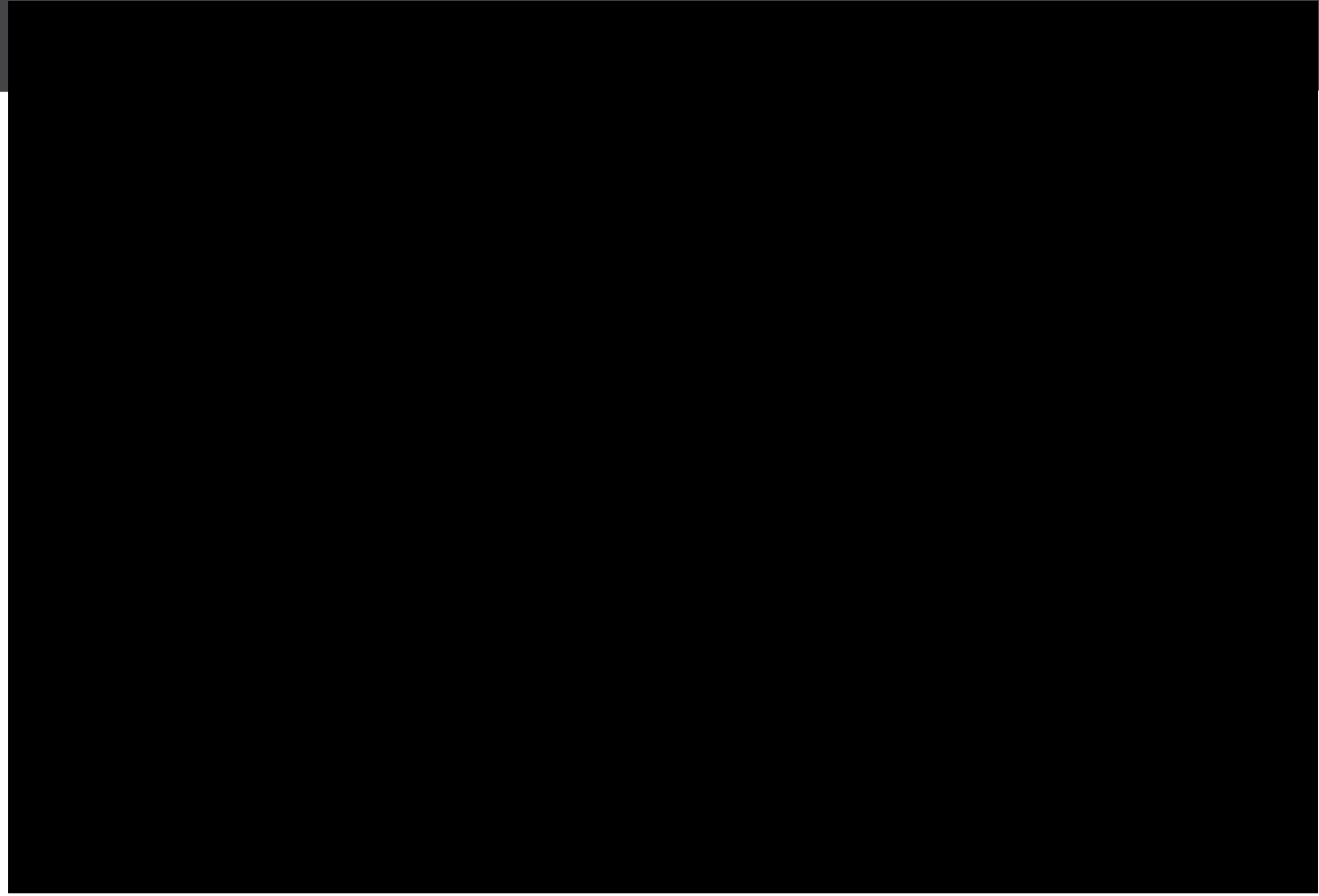
Use the family & friends network.



Consider unlikely/unexpected partners.



Life is not tried, it is merely survived
if you're standing outside the fire.
- Garth Brooks



Take the first step

If one advances confidently
in the direction of his dreams
and endeavors to live the life
which he has imagined, he
will meet with success
unexpected in common
hours.

- Henry David Thoreau

Start where you are.

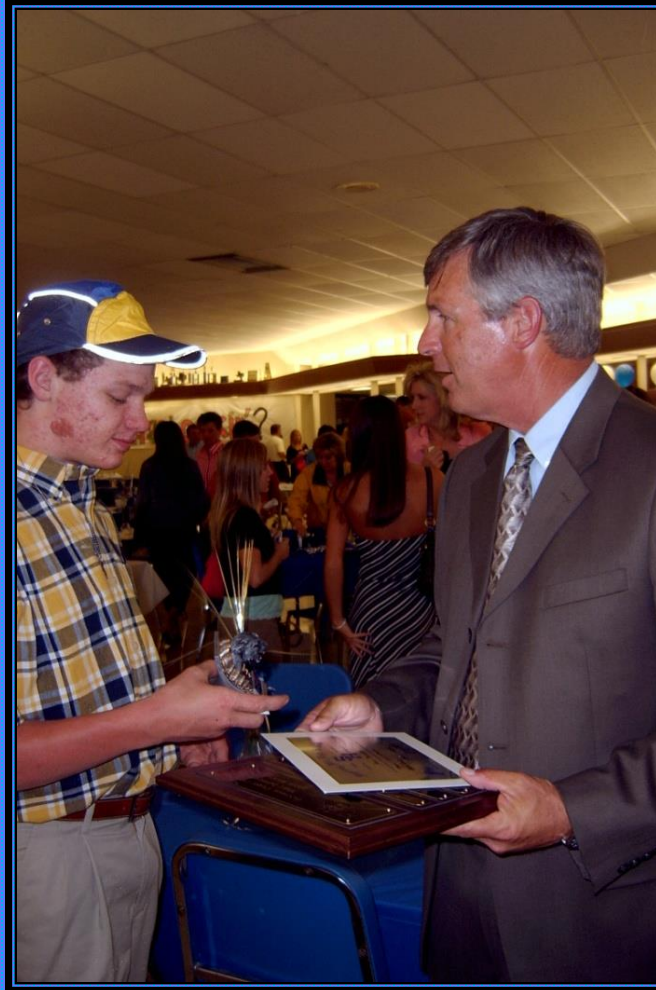


Consider unlikely/unexpected partners.



Cultivate relationships!

You never know



who might hold a
key.

Try new things.









Buckner's ExtraMile Services



David Buckner, Owner/Operator

➤ **Lawn Care**

Mowing, Mulching, Weedeating,
Edging, Tree Trimming & Clean-Up

➤ **Small Engine Care**

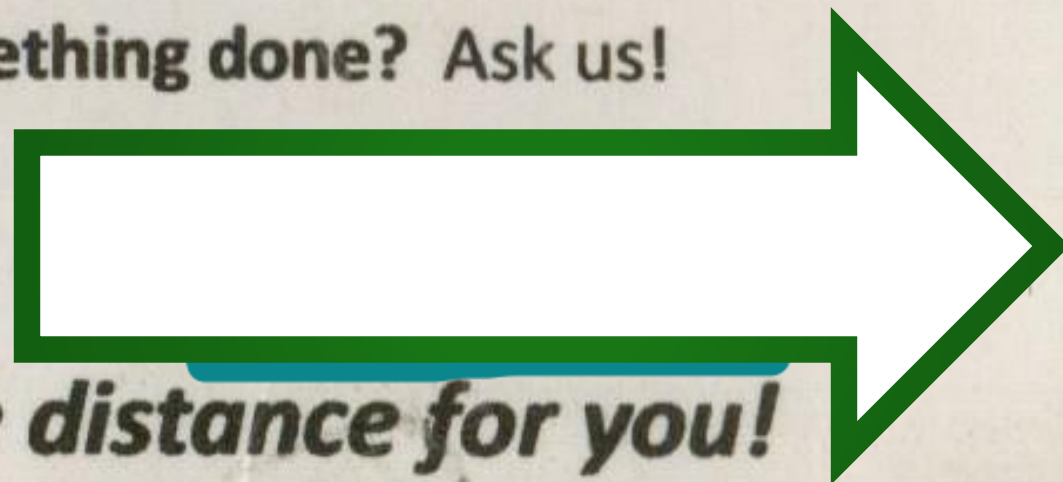
Maintenance & Repair

➤ **Need something done? Ask us!**

Home:

Cell :

Going the distance for you!



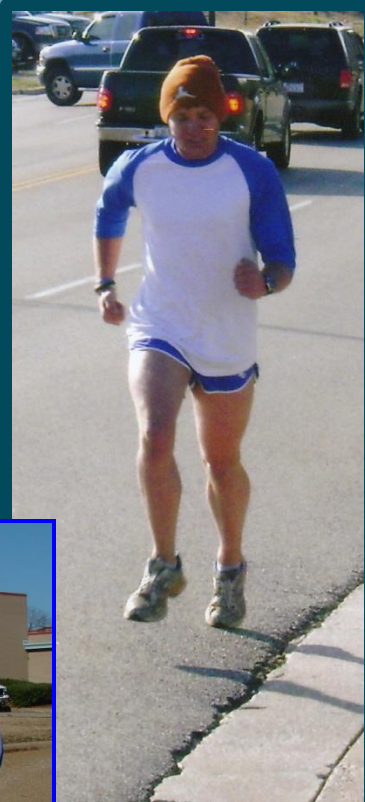


Self-Employment





Life!



Laura G. Buckner 2012





For your consideration...

What is one thing that surprised you today?

What is one thing that troubled you today?

What one thing will you do/try differently after today?

*To accomplish great things, we must not only **act**,
But also **dream**
Not only **plan**,
But also **believe**.*
- Anatole France





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***LGB Piney Woods
Consulting***



THANK YOU!



Headshot Station



RESERVE YOUR SPOT

No spots left? Stop by!
We'll fit you in for a walk-up.