## MARCH 2018 TIP OF THE MONTH

(As the saying goes...) TALK IS CHEAP...

# UNLESS IT'S <u>CHANGE</u> TALK!

Using our MI principles (DEARS) and skills (OARS), a client in contemplation may benefit from your use of eliciting change talk methods, towards resolving their ambivalence and tipping the scales to commitment in changing their target behavior.

## CHANGE TALK:

DARN-C	DIRN
(Talking about change)	(Resistance; defending status quo)
Desire: I want to	Desire: I don't want to
Ability: I can/I could	Inability: I cannot
Reason:because	Reason:because
Need: cost of status quo	Need: cost of change
Commitment: deadline	



Important Announcement

You are an agent of change.

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### A BRIEF SUMMARY OF METHODS FOR ELICITING CHANGE TALK (IQLEDGE):

(details in your MI training materials)

Importance ruler/Confidence ruler): On a scale of 1 to 10...

Querying extremes (best/worst case): If you don't stop\_, what's the worst things that could happen..

Looking forward (to the future)/Looking back (before the problem): What could be going better for you in a few years if you \_\_\_\_? What was going well for you before you \_\_\_\_?

Evocative questions (open ended questions): What would be some of the good things about \_?

Decisional balance (pros & cons): What are some of the good and not so good things about \_\_?

Goals & values: How does \_\_\_\_\_ fit in with your goals of \_\_\_\_?

Elaborating: What other positive things could happen if you \_\_\_?

\_\_\_\_\_

**A HINT:** So you don't miss an opportunity for more change talk, respond to change talk with at least one of these skills from your tool kit:

Reflecting Elaborating Summarizing Affirming

\_\_\_\_\_



#### LET'S PRACTICE RESPONDING TO CHANGE TALK FROM A CLIENT:

- 1. Once I use ice just one time I cannot stop, then I don't take care of my family and lose my job, and then I end up back in prison again. I do this over and over and it's killing me.
- 2. I want to stop getting so angry at my wife, because I always end up yelling at her and then I don't mean to, but I end up saying I going make her sorry ... and then I do.
- 3. You know I like the bars, drinking with my friends and laughing all the time. But then, I always gotta watch how I drive, try avoid the cops, and make sure I don't smell like liquor when I come home so my boyfriend and kids cannot tell where I was. I can stop going and drinking, because I just know one of these nights I'm going to get another DUI.



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