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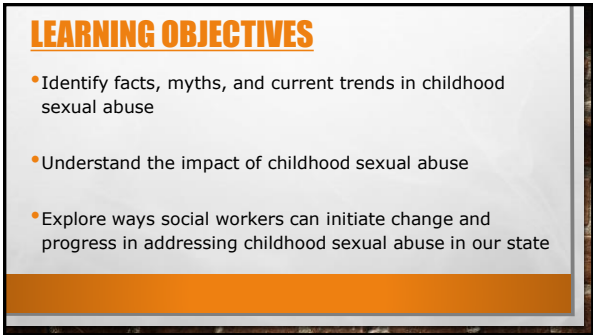
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**SEXUAL ABUSE BY THE NUMBERS**

- 1 in 10 children will be sexually abused before they are 18
- There are 42 million survivors of sexual abuse in the United States
- 90% of abused children know their abuser
- Identified incidents of child sexual abuse decreased 47% from 1993 to 2006
- Only 4%-8% of sexual abuse allegations are false

*(Darkness to Light, 2018)*

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**Disclosure of Childhood Sexual Abuse**

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**DISCLOSURE OF CHILDHOOD SEXUAL ABUSE**

- Victims often delay disclosure or fail to disclose altogether
- Disclosure of sexual abuse is a process rather than a single event
- Children do not give one detailed, clear account of abuse
- Disclosures generally unfold gradually
- Children typically "test" reactions and present the abuse in a series of "hints"

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**FACILITATORS v. BARRIERS TO DISCLOSURE**

- Age
- Gender
- Relationship to perpetrator
- Dialogical context
- Internal factors
- Family relations
- Environmental & cultural context

*(Alaggio, Collin-Vezina, & Lateef, 2017)*

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**Impact of Childhood Sexual Abuse**

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**IMPACT OF CHILDHOOD SEXUAL ABUSE**

- Adverse childhood experiences *(CDC, 2019)*
- Lifetime cost for survivors of child maltreatment is \$210,012 *(Fang et al., 2012)*
- Victims of CSA are a heterogenous population *(Saunders, 2012)*
- CSA is recognized as a nonspecific risk factor *(Kenney-Noziska, 2019)*
- Associated with an increased risk of a lifetime diagnosis of multiple psychiatric disorders *(Chen et al., 2010)*

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**IMPACT OF CHILDHOOD SEXUAL ABUSE**

- Common negative outcomes include PTSD symptoms, externalizing problems, and internalizing problems *(Trask, Walsh & DiLillo, 2011)*
- Depression, alcohol & substance abuse, eating disorders for women, and anxiety-related disorders for men are also common *(Cashmore & Shackie, 2013)*
- Inverse relationship between childhood maltreatment and academic achievement *(National Children's Advocacy Center, 2019)*

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**CULTURAL INFLUENCES & CONSIDERATIONS IN NEW MEXICO**



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**NEW MEXICO CULTURE**

- New Mexico ranks 50<sup>th</sup> in overall child wellbeing
- Reporting costs can be high for New Mexicans
- Patriarchal family structure
- Machismo beliefs
- Religious barriers
- Collectivist cultures may place the value of family reputation over the needs of the victim *(Sawrikar & Katz, 2017)*

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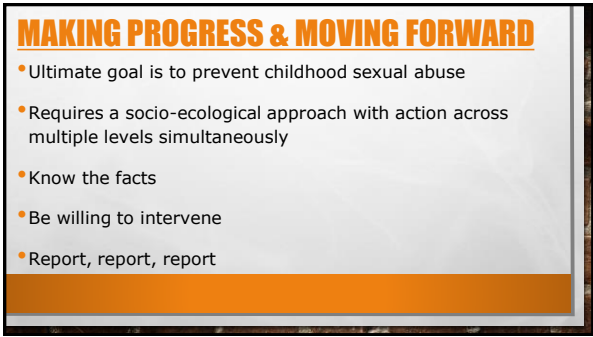
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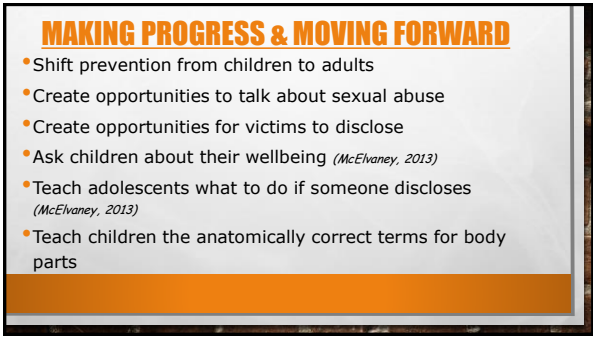
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**MAKING PROGRESS & MOVING FORWARD**

- Enhance social supports in the family & wider social environment
- Know your community resources
- Therapy, therapy, therapy
- Be knowledgeable about resiliency and protective factors *(Domhardt, Münzer, Feget, & Goldbeck, 2015)*
- Understand benevolent childhood experiences *(Narayanab, Rivera, Bernstein, Harris, & Lieberman, 2018)*

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**RESILIENCY AND PROTECTIVE FACTORS**

- Education
- Interpersonal and emotional competence
- Control beliefs
- Active coping
- Optimism
- Social attachment
- External attribution of blame
- Support from the family and the wider social environment

*(Domhardt, Münzer, Feget, & Goldbeck, 2015)*

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**BENEVOLENT CHILDHOOD EXPERIENCES**

- Caregiver
- Good friend
- Beliefs
- Like school
- Teacher
- Neighbors
- Supportive adult
- Opportunities good time
- Like yourself
- Predictable home routine

*(Narayanab, Rivera, Bernstein, Harris, & Lieberman, 2018)*

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