

Week #23

Referrals

It is unreasonable to expect every helper to be able to assist in every situation. Sometimes the best advice that you can give is to make a referral.

How to know when to refer:

Refer when a different area of specialization is needed.

Refer if there are indications of a serious risk that is beyond your training or expertise.

Refer when the person prefers a different approach to being helped.

Refer if a crisis has been managed, but long-term therapy is needed.

In order to make a successful referral, it is important **not** to convey the message that the problem is so radical or severe that you must refer.

Avoid sending the message that you don't like the person. This makes the person feel rejected.

Your care and sensitivity must be evident here.

Next Week: Conclusion