

Dedication



As described in the many pages of this *Resource Guide*, the wraparound process has evolved over time and developed through lessons learned from many “on the ground” experiments. As a result, the wraparound philosophy and practice model are now being used not just with youth with mental health needs, but also with children and families involved with the child welfare system, youth in juvenile justice, transition-age youth, adult offenders, elders, and many other types of individuals with complex needs. This *Resource Guide* is dedicated first and foremost to all the children, youth, parents, family members, advocates, team members, providers, administrators, researchers, and others who have promoted and participated in wraparound over the years of its continued evolution.

This *Resource Guide* is also dedicated to the memory of John D. Burchard (1936-2004). One of the first researchers to take an interest in the model, John was a tireless advocate for children, youth, and families, and he was passionate about wraparound’s promise. As a professor at the University of Vermont, John dedicated much of the last two decades of his life to thinking about how to better support communities and programs to implement wraparound. He co-wrote *One Kid at a Time* about the Alaska Youth Initiative, led the evaluation of *Project Wraparound* in Vermont, and created the *Wraparound Fidelity Index*.

John embodied the principles of wraparound in all aspects of his life. From our first day in graduate school, John’s students learned to practice by the philosophy that professionals do not have the answers, families do, and that our job is to do “whatever it takes” to ensure that children

are supported to live successfully at home and in their communities. He and his wife Sara opened their home to many young people throughout their life together, welcoming two Bosnian youths to join their family in Vermont. John and Sara also traveled around the world, visiting such far-away places as Australia, New Zealand, Russia, Europe, India, Mexico and Alaska, and made lasting friendships with people from different backgrounds and cultures wherever they went. John lived each day to the fullest, always demonstrating a sincere interest in others, a generous spirit, an indomitable optimism and a sense of humor that touched many, many lives. His dedication to developing

communities of practice and innovative research methods to help the field understand and implement wraparound is a core inspiration for this *Resource Guide* and the NWI.

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