OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY IN THE PRISON SYSTEM

ASSESSMENTS

- Occupational Profile
- Allen Cognitive Level Screen (ACLS)
- Adolescent/Adult Sensory Profile
- Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) Questionnaire

WHAT TO CONSIDER WHEN TREATING CLIENTS IN THE PRISON SYSTEM

- Trauma, mental illness, substance use, sensory processing, co-occurring medical problems, inadequate social supports, poverty, homelessness, and associated re-entry fears
- Long-term follow-ups are needed
- Challenges out of an OT and clients’ control when working with this population, e.g., materials, resources, documentation
- Clients themselves being removed from program suddenly
- Burnout for OTs in this field

INTERVENTIONS FOR WELLNESS

- Career development
- Mental health
  - Identifying negative patterns of thinking and behavior and replacing them with more desirable/favorable patterns
- Finance management
  - Education about opening/managing a bank account, credit and insurance, etc.
- Social interaction/participation
- Leisure
  - Engaging in meaningful activities such as, taking a cooking class, making music or art, building things from scratch, etc.
- Exploring religions and spirituality
- Education

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