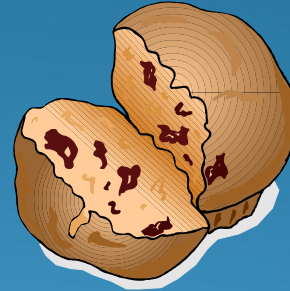


Right Relationships and Meaningful Outcomes



Cup of Tea and a Date Scone

Presenters:

Cherie De la Deesse
Parent

Debbie Davidson
Community Living Trust

Introduction

Families

- do not want to have to leave home
- What is the future?

Community Living Trust

- no traditional support
- families in control

Together

- Dreams
- no barriers



Academic responses to Right Relationships

Collins (1993)

“...acceptable or correct... relationship”

John O’Brien (2002)

“...alliances with people with disabilities, their families and friends... sharing responsibility... consulting”

Michael Kendrick (2007)

“...to stand with socially devalued people... may mean challenging their practice...”

Parents Perspective of Defining Right Relationships

- Non- Judgmental
- Flexible
- Responsive
- Respectful
- Reliable
- Honest
- Courteous
- Informed
- Inclusive



What was important to start...

- Keeping capacity small
- Little or no bureaucracy/no constraints
- No structure or specific
- Facilitator role not a do-er role
- Flexible, adaptive and uncomplicated
- Minimal resources/cost effective
- Prepared to be open and challenged the way in which we do things

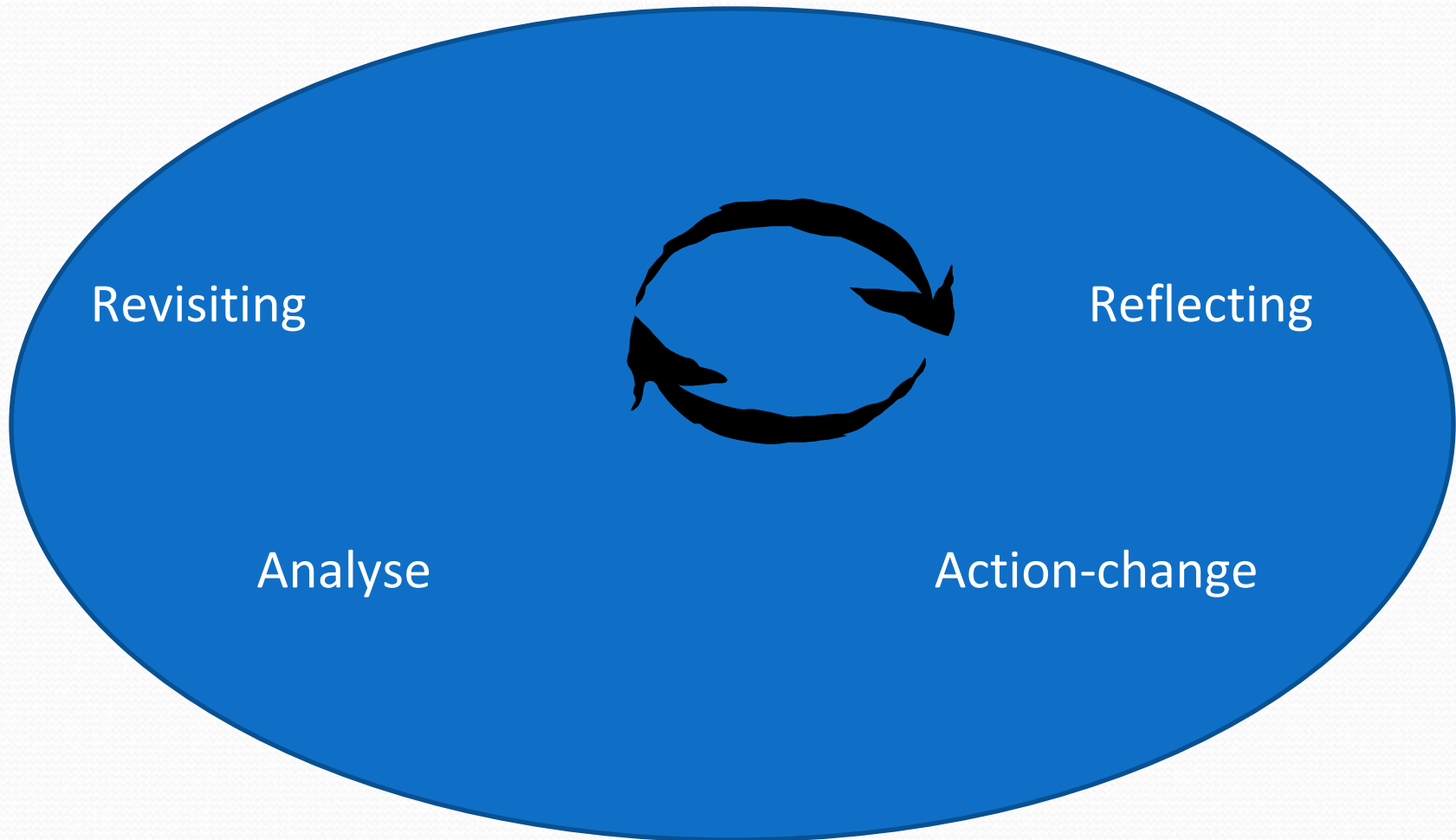
How and what did we do?

- We made time
- We were flexible
- Family agenda/NO presumptions
- Respectful/trust
- We listened
- Defined roles
- Appreciated each other's values
- Recognised each other's strengths and abilities
- Acknowledge each other's challenges
- Did not create dependency

Learnings- for the professional

- The unknown – new learning's
- Re-discovering my role
- Stepping back..not the authority...not leading
- Walking the talk
- Relationships in the community...more cups of tea!!
- Improving listening and communicating skills
- Keeping my mouth shut !!

A reflective practice



Developing characteristics....

- Empathic, non-judgmental
- Respectful, honest and maintains integrity
- Has or develops good relationship building skills
- Is responsive
- Excellent communicator
- Recognizes individual family culture and traditions
- To allow the person and their family to be a full participant
- Do no harm

Meaningful OUTCOMES in Right relationship

- 80/20 effect.
- Shared Authority-cooperation-compromise
- Families /person with a disability have control
- Eliminated barriers
- Professional learns how to be part of community
- CUPS OF TEA AND LOTS OF DATE SCONES

Difference between a

- GOOD Relationship
- Someone who knows how to question me to get the answers needed
- Impartial Empathy
- Vent safely – without being judged negatively
- Bounce ideas back and forth
- BAD Relationship
- Box ticker-impersonal boxes do not cover everything
- Under minders- know it alls
- Dictatorial
- Yes – person
- False promises

Parents perspective on meaningful outcomes

- What has worked:
- Constructive help for my daughter
- Getting through what needs to be done
- Humour and kindness along the way
- Haven't had to leave home for all this to occur
- I'm in control