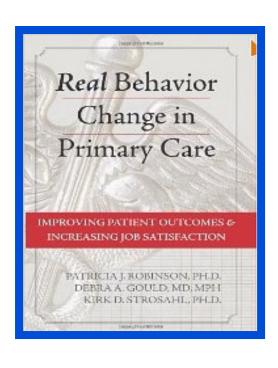
# "The Psychologically Flexible Teacher"



Debra A. Gould MD, MPH
Central Washington Family Medicine
Residency Program
Yakima, Washington

### **Disclosure**



# New Harbinger Inc. Publications

# Why? We want to be Great Teachers......

- Create NurturingLearning Environment
- Be Effective
- Justice



# FM Milestone?

# PROF 1 – Completes a process of professionalization.....

- Level 2 Recognizes own conflicting personal and professional values.
- Level 3 Recognizes that physicians have an obligation to self-discipline and to selfregulate.

# Goal: Psychological Flexibility

### **Objectives:**

- Learn about Mindfulness
   & Values-based Action
- Use <u>Tools</u> for developing Mindfulness & Connecting with Teaching Values



 Develop <u>Action Plan</u> for dealing with "Difficult Trainees"

### Case: Lydia - Second Year Resident



Complaints - Hospitalized patients complained she was rude. Offended nursing staff with classist comments .....

- IMG practiced a short time in home country
- Significant medical knowledge deficits
- Older resident
- Blames others for her poor performance.
- Has difficulty accepting feedback.

What next?

# **ACT**- (Acceptance and Commitment Training)



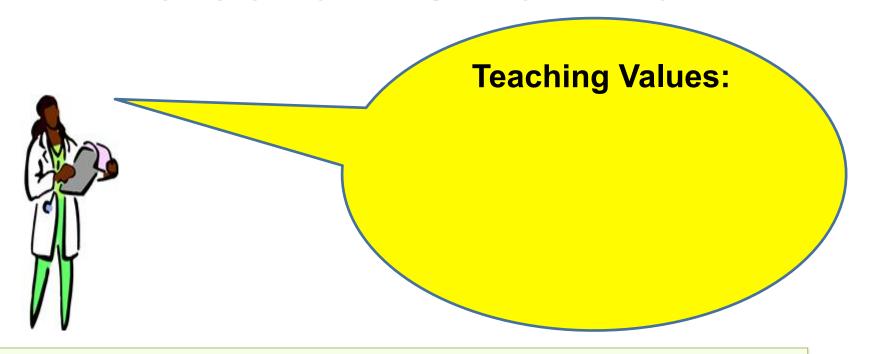
mindfulness and acceptance processes

in the service of

enhancing people's ability to pursue personally valued life goals and actions.



## **Personal ACTion Plan**



#### **Action Steps:**

1.

2.

3.

# **Core Processes**

**Be Present** 

Accept

Psychological
Flexibility

Defuse

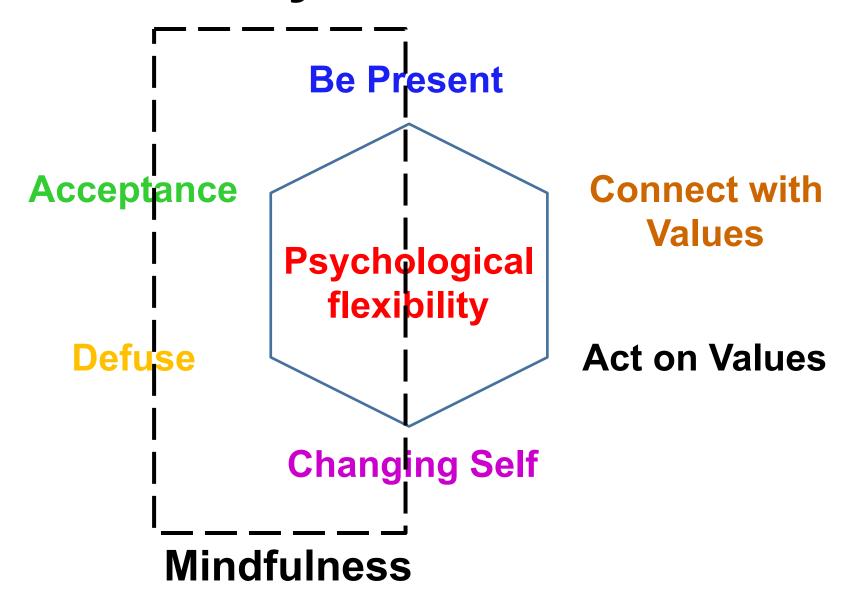
Connect with Values

Act on Values

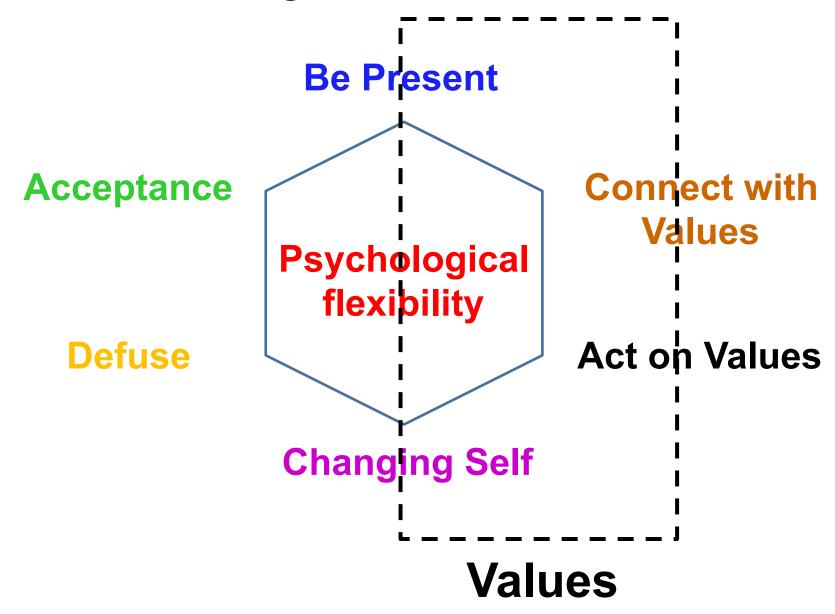
**Changing Self** 

(A Practical Guide to Acceptance and Commitment Therapy, edited by Hayes, SC; Strosahl, KD. Springer, New York, NY, 2004.)

# Resiliency Core Processes



# Resiliency Core Processes



#### **Values**

- "Direction in life"
- Not a goal
- What's Important to you in how you live your life as a teacher?



What are my Values as a Teacher?

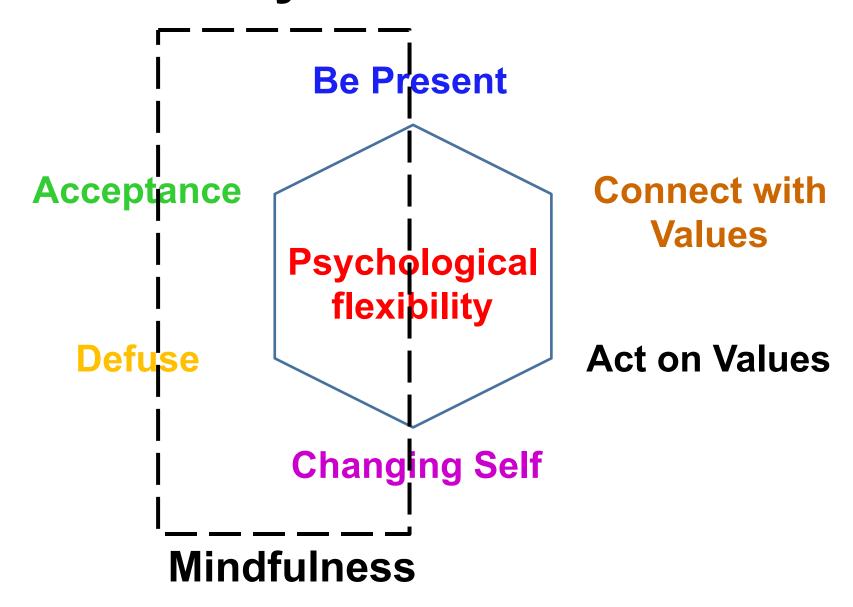
# **Teaching Values**

#### As a Good Advisor I value being:

- Open
- Active Listener
- Think of best interest of resident
- Think of best interest of patient
- Aware of my biases
- Fair
- Think of best interest of my program



# Resiliency - Core Processes



### Mindfulness TEAMS (Private Experience)



**TEAMS** Exercise

# TEAMS Skill Training: Sit in silence and think about some situation with a resident that troubles you..

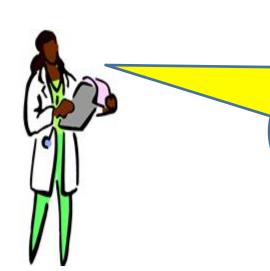
TEAMS Element	What comes up?
Thoughts	
Emotions	
Associations	
Memories	
Sensations	

# TEAMS Skill Training: Sit in silence and think about some situation with a resident that troubles you..

TEAMS Element	What comes up?
Thoughts	How could she be so insensitive? Who does she think she is?
Emotions	Angry, frustrated, embarrassed.
Associations	Doctors who treat people like diseases instead of human beings.
Memories	Feeling out of place in medical school.
Sensations	Tight jaw, Sigh.

# What to do at next advisee meeting with Lydia?

### **Personal ACTion Plan**



#### **Teaching Value:**

- Open & Active Listener
- Think of best interest of resident, patient & staff

Action Steps: (Specific, Doable, Self-generated, Accountable)

- 1. Call her and ask her to meet with me. (Acceptance)
- 2. Listen to her side of the story. (Be present)
- 3. Describe perceptions of staff and patients.
- 4. Give assignment from Crucial Conversations.

# **ACT builds Resiliency**

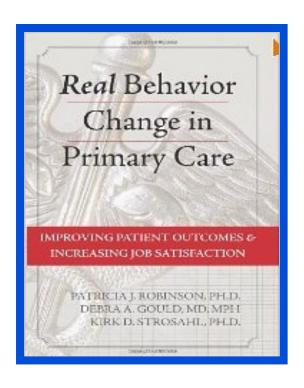
#### **Mindfulness**

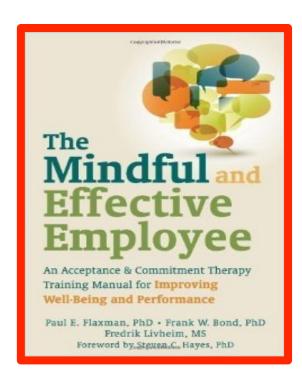
- Present moment awareness
- Noticing and untangling from internal barriers
- Strengthening your resilient self

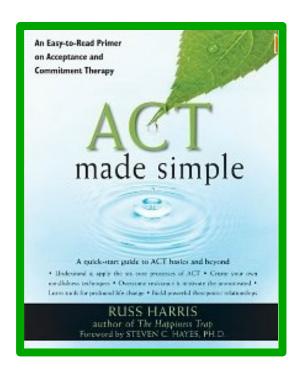
#### **Values-based Action**

- Defining your values
- Mindfully engaging in values-based action
- Using values as a guide to goals and daily behaviors

### **ACT Resources**







- Association for Contextual Behavioral Science <u>www.contextualpsychology.org/</u>
- New Harbinger Publications www.newharbinger.com