Understanding Readiness

Understanding, Assessing for, and Supporting Readiness to Change

DTTAC Advance Training for Lifestyle Coaches









Facilitator



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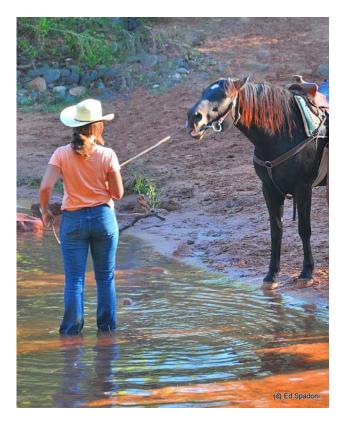








Why Does One Person Change But Not Another?













The Science Behind Readiness

James Prochaska and Ralph DiClemente 1994

- Studied 'self-changers' those who sought help in psychotherapy
- Began study around smoking cessation - theories now applied to a large number of behavioral health areas











Prochaska & DiClemente's Discoveries

- Change is HARD
- Change is a process
- Most of us attempt change but return to our old ways
- We do learn something from every change attempt
- We (helpers) can't make people change no matter how hard we try
- We can be helpful



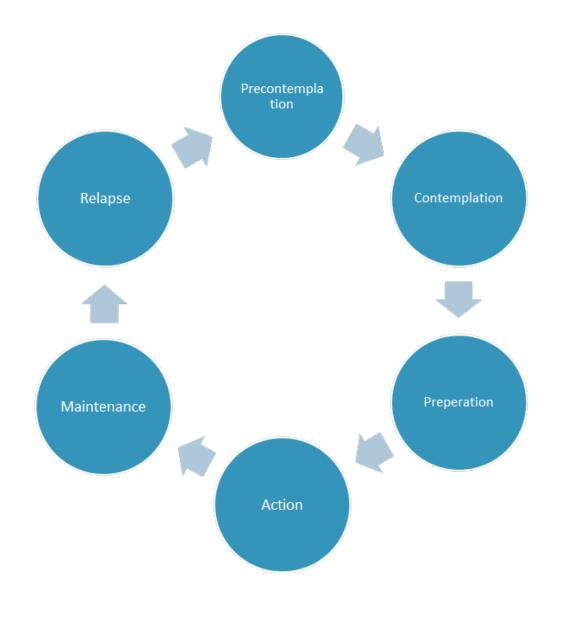




Adapted from: Motivating People for Behavior Change Christine Fiore, Ph.D.







The Transtheoretical Model of Behavior Change Key Concepts









Are You Ready TO MAKE CHANGE?

PRECONTEMPLATION

You have no intention of making a change within the next six months. This inertia or complacency may be due to being uninformed or underinformed.

CONTEMPLATION

You are getting ready to make a lifestyle change within the next six months. You are aware of the benefits but are also aware of the drawbacks.

PREPARATION

You intend to take action within the next month and may have made a significant change within the past year. You have created a plan for changing your behavior.

ACTION

You have made a specific lifestyle change within the past six months, and the action taken is one that will measurably reduce your risk of disease.



MAINTENANCE

You have made significant lifestyle changes within the past six months and are also actively working to prevent backsliding into your old ways.



ADOPTION

The new and improved behavior has become part of your daily life. You no longer have to think about it in order to maintain it.









Assessing Readiness in the National DPP

- Assessing readiness to change among potential participants in the National DPP is not a new concept
- DTTAC's first readiness assessment appeared on common ground in late 2012
- Assessing readiness practices vary across organizations nationally
- CDC and other invested partners have increasingly recommended readiness assessments as an engagement and retention strategy











CDC: Assessing Readiness as a Retention **Strategy INCREASING PARTICIPANT RETENTION FOR YOUR TYPE 2**

"Assess participant readiness to ensure that individuals are ready for and committed to program participation and behavior change, including the implementation of a 'Session Zero' at the start of the program."



DIABETES PREVENTION LIFESTYLE CHANGE PROGRAM

Collecting and monitoring data

Retaining eligible participants with prediabetes is critical for your type 2 diabetes prevention lifestyle change program and to improve participant outcomes. Programs with a proven record of successfully retaining eligible participants have shared the following tips and lessons learned from their experiences. Review each of the participant retention tips to identify those that are most applicable to your program and participants

ESTABLISH PARTICIPANT BUY-IN

Assess commitment and readiness to change prior to enrollment in the program.

 Individuals who invest in the program personally may be more likely to be committed and follow through with the program. - Offer an introductory Session Zero to share program expectations with potential participants and establish buy-in. Ask potential participants to sign commitment agreements before enrolling to help them acknowledge and commit to the program's expectations and requirements

"Assess participant readiness to ensure that individuals are ready for and committed to program participation and behavior change, including the implementation of a 'Session Zero' at the start of the program."









Raise your hand if you/your organization assesses readiness of participants <u>before</u> the program begins?

- When is readiness assessed?
- By whom?
- What tool are you using?
- What is done with the information?



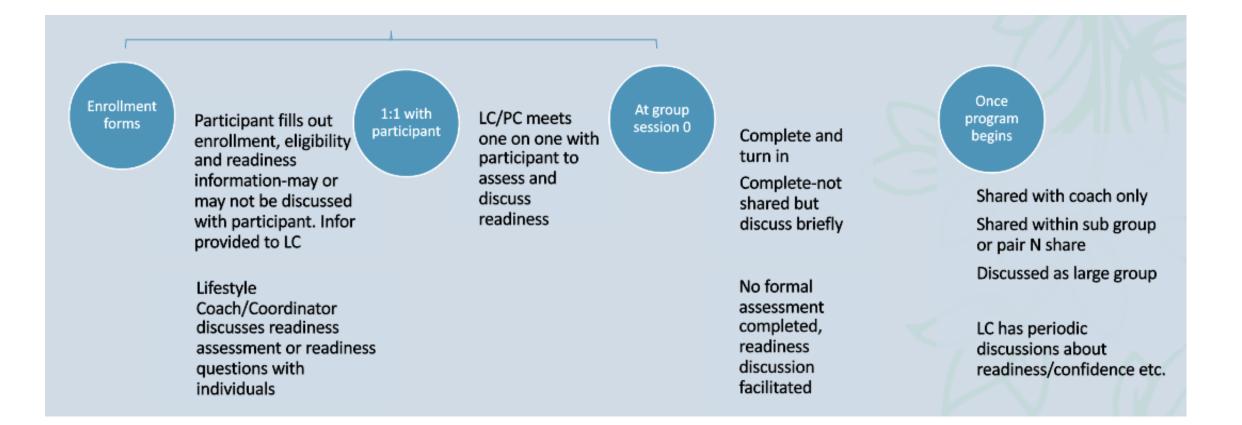








When & How are Organizations/Lifestyle Coaches Assessing Readiness







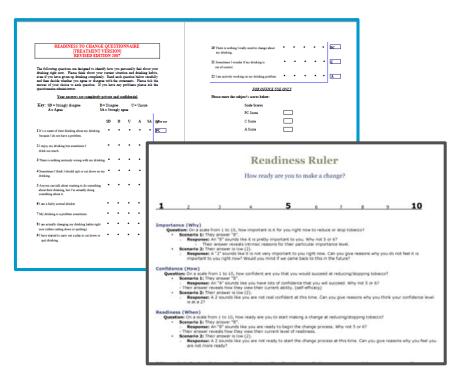




Tools Are Used for Assessing Readiness

There are a variety of readiness assessment tools available for a variety of health behaviors.

- 32 item questionnaire
- Prochaska and Diclemente created a 4question short survey
- Readiness Ruler
- Other adapted specifically for the National DPP











Readiness Assessment Integrated into Enrollment Forms

- Standardized way of collecting participant information
- Provides insights for the Lifestyle Coach/Coordinator
- Provide insight for potential participant
- Potential launch pad for follow up engagement conversation with participant

Participant Enrollment Form Today's Date (mm/dd/2000):		Have you been told by a health care provider that you have prediabetes, elevated blood sugar, or borderline diabetes? (check one): Ves No
First Name:	Last Name:	□ Fasting glucose test (blood test where blood was drawn with needle)
		Hemoglobin A1c test
E-mail Address:	Phone Number:	Plasma glucose measured 2 hours a 75g glucose load
	_	Don't know / don't remember
Date of Birth (mm/dd/ywyy):	Gender (check one):	
//	🗆 Male 🛛 Female	If you are a woman, have you ever been told by a health care provider that you had Gestational Diabetes Mellitus (GDM) during pregnancy? (check one):
County of Residency:	Ethnicity (check one):	Wentus (CDW) during pregnancy: (Creck One).
	Hispanic or Latino	🗆 Yes 🛛 No
	Not Hispanic or Latino	
Race (check all that apply):	Education (check one):	
American Indian or Alaska Native	Less than grade 12 (No high school or GED)	
🗆 Asian	Grade 12 or GED (High school graduate)	
Black or African American Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	□ Some College (1 year – 3 years)	
White White	College (4 years or more)	
Enrollment Source (check one):		
Primary care provider	Media	
Non-primary healthcare professional	An employer or employer's wellness program	
Self (Decided to come on your own)	Family/Friends	
Community-based organization	Insurance Company	
	Other	
Height:	Weight:	
feetinches	pounds (round to nearest pound)	
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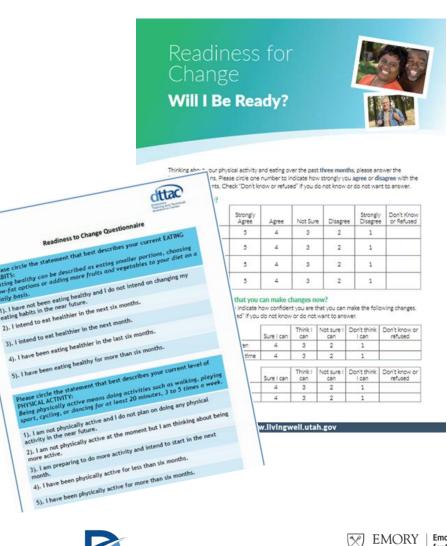


1:1 Conversations with Potential Participants

- Done verbally or in review of form
- Helps Lifestyle Coach learn about participants strengths, struggles and realities
- Helps build rapport between Lifestyle Coach and participant
- Awareness raising for both coach and participant



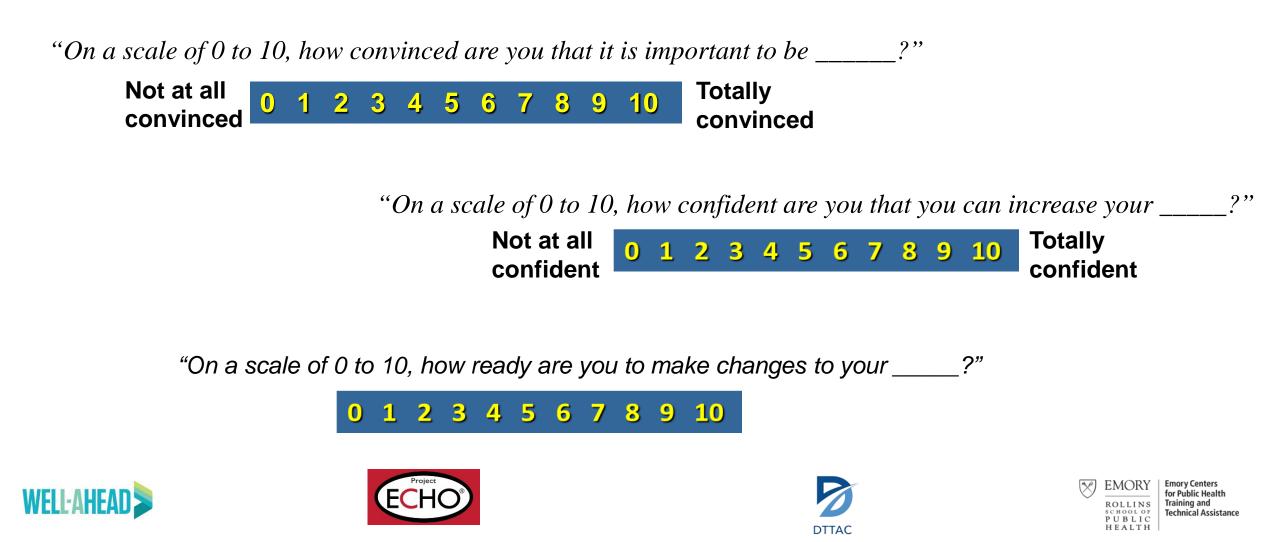








Readiness Rulers as Assessments





What are some pros and cons of assessing readiness in the lifestyle change program?









Assessing Readiness: Pro's & Cons

<u>Pros</u>

- Helps participant identify reasons for and barriers to change
- Helps coach get to know participants reasons and barriers
- Helps coach leverage group support for where participants are ambivalent







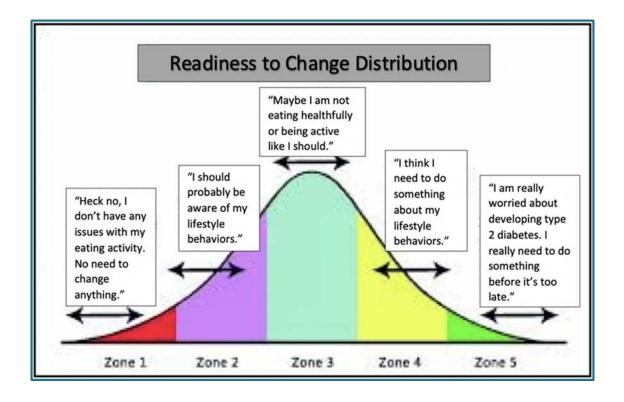
- Not all orgs or coaches have capacity to formally assess
- Not all coaches have the training to use readiness information in a meaningful way
- Risk of coach bias





The Intent of Readiness Assessments

- Assessing readiness is an opportunity for lifestyle coaches to understand the barriers to participation a potential participating is facing
 - Can also illuminate participant motivations and strengths
- Readiness assessments can *help* participants explore their reasons for wanting to change and their anticipated obstacles/areas they may need support
- Assessing readiness *should not* be used to **refuse** participation to an interested eligible participant.













Think about a behavior/habit that you changed after multiple attempts.

What helped you "get ready" for that change?









Supporting Participant as they Progress Towards Change

Once the person reaches the contemplation stage, additional strategies can be employed to help the person move along the stages of change

"Anything that move a person along the continuum towards making a positive change should be viewed as a success."









Tips for Enhancing & Supporting Participant Readiness

- Discuss ambivalence
- Explore Pros and cons
- Look at limited confidence
- Imagine the future
- Identify barriers
 - Brainstorm around obstacles
- Shift perspectives on change
 - Normalize slips



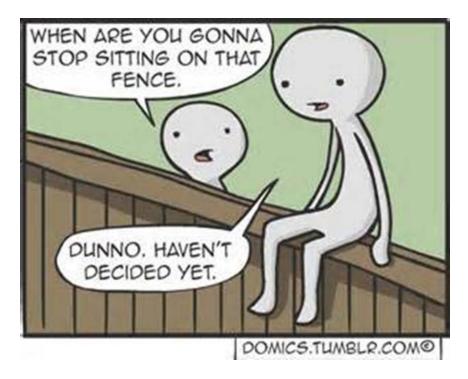








Discuss Ambivalence



- Ambivalence is natural part of any change process
- Give participants permission to discuss their ambivalence about specific changes









Explore Pros and Cons

- There are positives to adopting a new behavior (pros)
- There are negative things about adopting a new behavior (cons)
- Pros and cons to change are important
- How one looks at them can become the key shifting point to action
 - Explore pros
 - Acknowledge cons











Celebrate the Small Steps

"Let's go around the room and each share one small step/choice that you made since we met last that was in support of your lifestyle change goals."











Motivation/Visioning Activities

- Gives voice and an image to represent a participants' motivations for lifestyle change
 - Great insights for the LC
- Creates a supportive environment
- When?
 - First four weeks?
 - When group morale seems low
 - Transitioning to post core?
 - Post core













Share ways that you focus on **small steps** with participants and/or use **visioning** as an exercise for intrinsic motivation in the lifestyle change program.









Poll

Which of the following best represents one of *you*r barriers to change:

- A. Time
- B. Physical pain or illness
- C. Competing priorities
- D. No plan
- E. Not enough support
- F. None of the above









Identify Barriers - Strategize to Address Barriers

- Lifestyle Coaches should ask participants to identify barriers to specific changes
- Lead groups in brainstorming strategies and solutions
 - Focus on group solutions before curriculum solutions
 - Group ideas and support are powerful for participants!



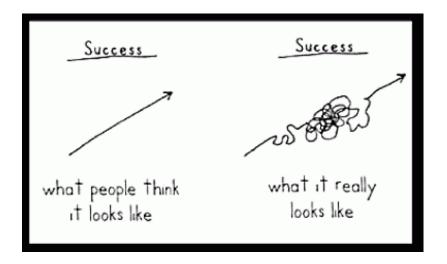








Shift Perspectives About Change



- Talk about the change process with groups/participants
- Normalize the "hills and values" of change
- Instill a small steps, experimental approach to change
- Focus on what is learned









Activities that Reinforce Small Changes





perhaps due to boredom with a routine, stress, lack of accountability, etc. The Lifestyle Change Challenge board is a fun way to encourage and challenge participants to experiment with some new or enhanced physical activity and eating routines that are in line with the CDC curriculums.

The Lifestyle Change Challenge board above can be used in a multitude of ways, but all the with the same goal of motivating participants to stay on or get back on track. You can be creative with how you choose to use this resource or try one of our examples below. Any way you decide to use this chart, he sure to have participants track their experience and results to share with your Lifestyle Change Program group! We've included a blank chart below in case your group wants to add their Lifestyle Change Challenge behaviors!

- 1. Ask participants to experiment with one or two behaviors on the chart every day for one week. For example, a participant may choose "stop eating when you feel full" and/or "follow a fitness video on YouTube" for their focus for one week. Encourage the participant to write an action plan to work that behavior into their routine. They will then attempt to do that behavior every day for that week. The next week, they can start again with a new behavior or two.
- 2. Have participants check off as many boxes as completed within a specified time frame (one week, two weeks, or one month). It might be a fun challenge to use during months 7-12/post core!
- 3. For one week/month, challenge participants to complete as many behaviors as they can in the dark gray rows. The following week/month have them switch to behaviors in the light gray rows
- 4. At the end of meetings with your Lifestyle Change Program Group each week, discuss together how to actively and realistically implement one or two of the behaviors on the board into participants' weekly action plans.

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Is this in the CDC Curriculum !?

- Talking about ambivalence, pros and cons and confidence is not overtly written into the CDC curriculum
- Using facilitation skills (open ended questions, reflections, brainstorm, group discussion) to explore this critical aspect of change is within scope of the role of the Lifestyle Coach
- Taking advanced training on facilitation skills, motivational interviewing, behavior change etc. will help strengthen coaches' skills and confidence !











Resources for Lifestyle Coaches

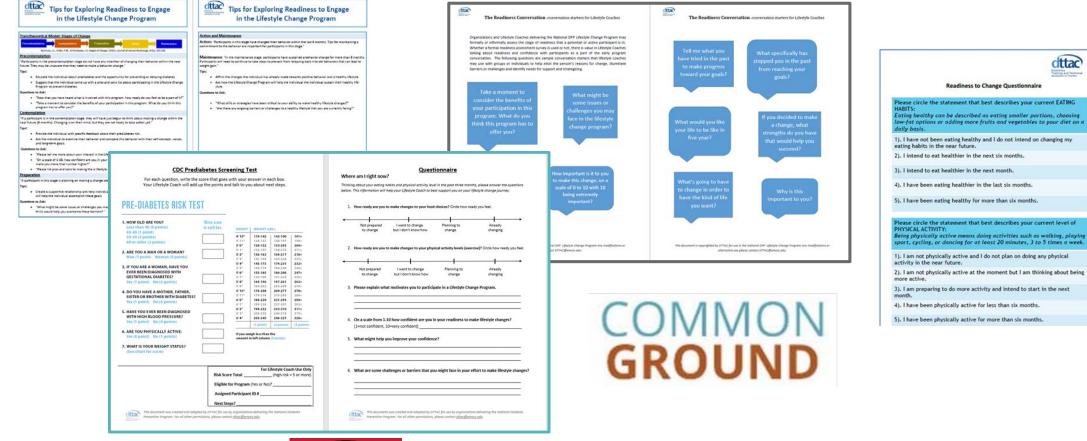








DTTAC Common Ground Readiness Resources



Emory Centers

for Public Health Training and

Technical Assistance

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DTTAC

EMORY

ROLLINS SCHOOL OF

P U B L I C H E A L T H





Continue the Conversation

- Lifestyle Coaches can share practices and resources on Common Ground
- New resources created, shared and posted regularly
- Check monthly newsletters for new resources and hot topic conversations











Summary

Growth is not steady, forward, upward progression. It is instead a switchback trail; three steps forward, two back, one around the bushes, and a few simply standing, before another forward leap."

- Readiness is associated with bringing about change
- Readiness is both a state, and a process
- Behavior change is rarely a discrete, single event.
- Behavior change is understood as a process of identifiable stages through which people pass
- Assessing readiness to change can raise participants awareness of their motivations and barriers to change
- Assessing readiness to change can help lifestyle coaches understand participant motivations, barriers to change and areas of needed support
- We are most helpful when we work with the process not against it!
- There are resources available to help you/your organization explore readiness to change







