

Quality: What is it and why we need it?

Curtis McMillen, Ph.D.

We'll talk about...

- What quality social service is?
- Why we need quality management.



What are the Dimensions of

Quality Service?

WHAT CONSTITUTES HIGH QUALITY SERVICE IN THESE FOUR SERVICE ENCOUNTERS?

Hair Cut

Buying Shoes

Coffee Shop

Applying for TANF



A Time Dimension?



PROMPTNESS

Getting Served / Getting Out

A Hassle Dimension?

A Getting it Right Dimension



Competence
Knowledge
Execution



Finally after trying to make decisions on a job and everything falling through I got called back to work at my old school! The really good thing about it is different building different principal, I went from High School Special Ed to 4th grade regular Ed and so far so good! They had too. Many students in each of 4 classes so they opens another class and I got it.

A Human Dimension



'When we are fully engaged, we connect with, laugh with, and uplift the lives of our customers— even if just for a few moments...

It's really about human connection." www.starbucks.com

respect
warmth
positive regard
connection

liked me as a person culturally sensitive motivating

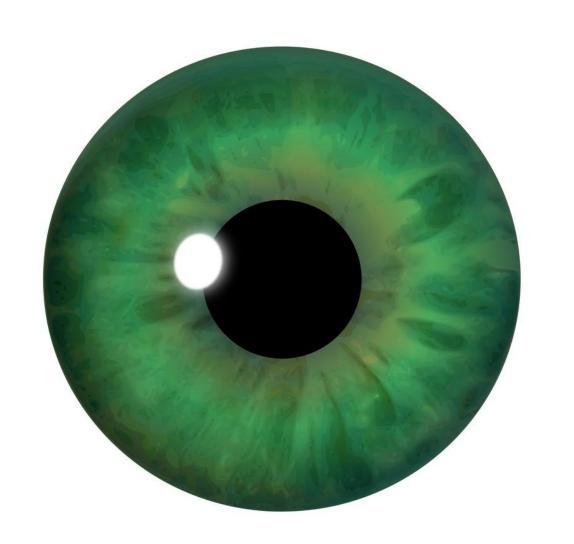
An access dimension?

Got Service?



A Cost Dimension?

Afford the service



Is quality in the eye of the ... consumer?

Quality Service is Service that is...

Technically proficient

Accurate Assessment

Well Chosen Evidence-Based Intervention

Technically well-delivered (fidelity)





Sensitively Delivered

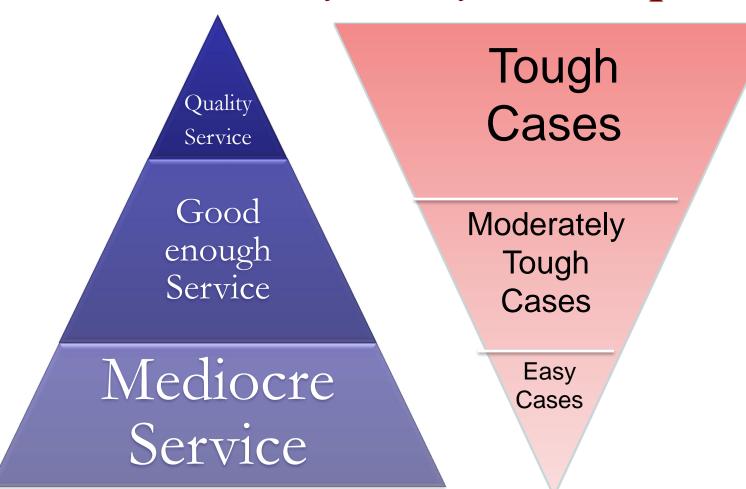
Culturally Sensitive

Respectful

Warm, Engaging, Motivating

It's really about human connection

Megivern, D.A., McMillen, J.C, Proctor, E.K., Striley, C.W., Cabassa, L.J., & Munson, M. R. (2007). Quality of care: Expanding the social work dialogue. *Social Work, 52, 115-124.*



Planes take off and land at the same time on the same runway

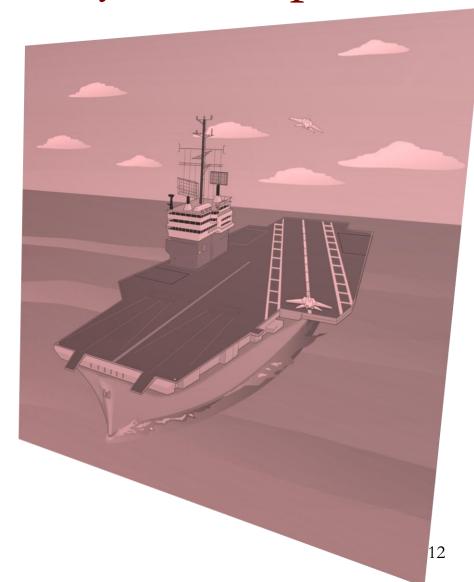
while the runway rocks side to side

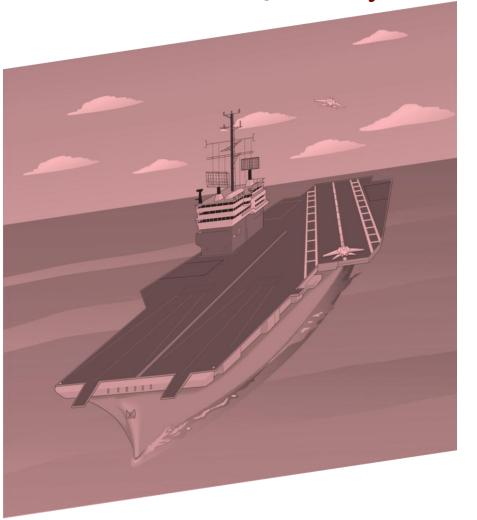
with radar off to avoid detection; Fuel the aircraft while running;

scatter live bombs around;

wet the surface with sea water and oil;

staff it with 20 year olds.





The Price of Failure is High

Crashes
Explosions
Loss of life

Cost to society: Loss of billions of dollars of equipment

All of them have histories of selfharm, violence against others, maltreatment, witnessing violence, gang involvement, runaway, school failure.

Put them together in one space 24/7, 365.

Staff the facility with people with little prior experience and pay them just over minimum wage.

Hire clinicians just out of school.





The Price of Failure is High

Suicide
Staff or client assault
Sexual assault
Homicide
Death by restraint
Incarceration

Cost to society for incarceration, lost income