How do human beings improve their lives after individual, institutional, and/or structural trauma, and what organizational systems and conditions best support transformative change?
Thinking About Systems
“If it weren’t for HIV, I’d probably be dead.”

- Dawn Stevens, diagnosed 1985
The Transformative Project

Dying from  →  Living with  →  Thriving despite

This framework can help clients understand a process towards healing in several life dimensions.  

Watkins-Hayes, 2019, *Remaking a Life*
The HIV Safety Net
The global network of health & social service providers, activists, advocates, researchers & policy makers who create & operationalize the HIV response.
“Nothing About Us Without Us”
### Remaking a Life Respondent Usage of the HIV Safety Net Snapshot Study (n=84)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Connected to HIV Safety Net (%)</th>
<th>All (n=84)</th>
<th>Black (n=35)</th>
<th>White (n=21)</th>
<th>Latina (n=22)</th>
<th>Multiracial (n=6)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Connected</td>
<td>69 (82%)</td>
<td>29 (83%)</td>
<td>16 (76%)</td>
<td>20 (91%)</td>
<td>4 (66%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not Connected</td>
<td>15 (18%)</td>
<td>6 (17%)</td>
<td>5 (24%)</td>
<td>2 (9%)</td>
<td>2 (33%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Connection to ASN (%)</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Medical care only</td>
<td>21 (25%)</td>
<td>2 (7%)</td>
<td>7 (33%)</td>
<td>10 (45%)</td>
<td>2 (33%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical care and social services</td>
<td>48 (57%)</td>
<td>27 (77%)</td>
<td>9 (43%)</td>
<td>10 (45%)</td>
<td>2 (33%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No connection</td>
<td>15 (18%)</td>
<td>6 (17%)</td>
<td>5 (24%)</td>
<td>2 (9%)</td>
<td>2 (33%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Institutional Connectedness was determined by a participant’s answer to the following question: “Do you visit or talk with someone at an HIV-focused agency, group, or health care provider at least once every 1-3 months?”
Thinking About Institutional Dynamics

The New Welfare Bureaucrats: Entanglements of Race, Class, and Policy Reform

Celeste Watkins-Hayes
**In Summary:**
The Path to Equity in an Era of an Expanding Safety Net

- In the relationship between support and surveillance, what we measure is what we incentivize.
- Client voice in policy formation and implementation is an accountability tool.
- Trauma-Informed Care is an Equity Strategy that Challenges the Narrative of the “Difficult Client.”
- Holistic services help to address “Injuries of Inequality.”
- Representation matters, and so does staff training.