

# "There is no I in team, but there is me: Embracing New Team Dynamics for Collective Success"

Tangi Brownlee, MS, CCLS II

Paige Cos, BS, CCLS II

Rachel Coombs, BS, CCLS



### Meet Tangi



- Undergrad at Georgia State Univ & Georgia Southern Univ
- Grad school-Nova Southeastern Univ
- Internship at JDCH
- 19 years at JDCH
- 6.5 years in ED, 7 years in PICU
- Currently in Surgical / OR



### **Meet Paige**





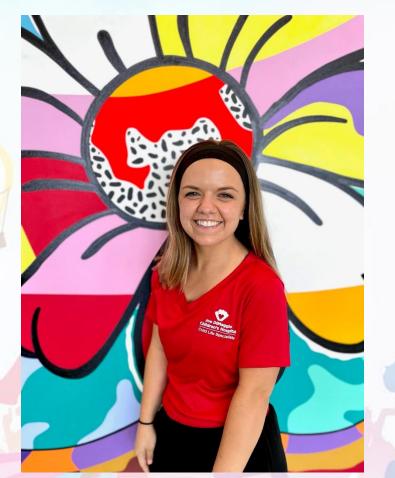
Practicum in 2016



Graduated 2017

### Joe DiMaggio Internship 2017 Children's Hospital Hired 2018

### Meet Rachel





Practicum in 2019



FA

FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF CHILD LIFE PROFESSION.

LP

Internship 2020



2021-2022

# Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital

2022- current

# **Our hospital**

- 226 bed hospital
  - 8 floors total
  - Floors 1-7 are medical
  - 8<sup>th</sup> floor is the child life zone
- 14 Certified Child Life Specialists
  - 1 Child Life Zone Coordinator
  - 1 Child Life Manager
  - Each specialist assigned a unit
- 3 Child life assistants
- 2 Music therapists
- 1 Art therapist
- 1 Yoga therapist
- 1 Broward County School District teacher
- 1 Resident Clown





### Learning objectives

- Participants will be able to identify ways to establish a warm and welcoming environment for new teammates.
- Participants will be able to recognize the onboarding process of new employees
- Participants will be able to understand the importance of establishing a mentorship program for new employees
- Participants will be able to explore various ways to support an inclusive environment that embraces creativity and innovation
- Participants will seek different techniques to establish trust and effective communication between new members of the team and existing teammates.



### Why we wanted to present on this:

- Varying perspectives on growth, improvements, and changes
- Years of experience between us
  - Tangi 19 years
  - Paige- 5 years
  - Rachel- 2 years
- Structure of the team
- Structure of the hospital
- Different experiences related to onboarding / orientation



### Little back story

 In 2019 our team consisted of ½ new members and ½ established specialists. We attended a team building event offsite with our organizational development organization. A *conflict resolution workshop* if you will.

#### Column 1 -- BOLD

The BOLD type uses a style of communications that is most often direct. The BOLD type likes the bottom line and works at making things practical. Consequently, the BOLD type's conversation is short, to the point, and sometimes can be blunt. In addition, the BOLD type sometimes likes to be combative because s/he likes challenges. In other words, the BOLD is stimulated by the adventure of a "heated" discussion. This discussion can end up with the BOLD intimidating others into silence.

The BOLD type is a divergent thinker and because of this, is sometimes accused of not listening. That is, the BOLD is thinking of a rebuttal while you are talking. However, this same quality makes the BOLD type a good problem-solver.

The BOLD type's communication style reflects a need to be independent, free, practical, and domineering. While the BOLD is good at visualizing the big picture, details of how to make it happen are sometimes a problem.

### Carly

#### Column 2 -- EXPRESSIVE

The EXPRESSIVE type personality uses a style of communications that reflects a need to be involved with people. In other words, the EXPRESSIVE type likes to talk and is good at it. To the EXPRESSIVE type, persuading others is stimulating. Consequently, the EXPRESSIVE type is a good presenter by nature because of her/his ability to relate to people. In fact, research indicates that EXPRESSIVE types have a natural ability to understand the emotional state of others and researchers think this ability is actually a kind of human intelligence. Another characteristic of the EXPRESSIVE type is that they often talk with word pictures and in emotional terms. They like to communicate a positive and optimistic message.

The EXPRESSIVE type is driven by a need to influence others, be popular, and to gain public recognition. Their communication abilities make them good salespeople, teachers, presenter, politicians, and actors. The EXPRESSIVE type, of all the personality types, is the natural communicator.



#### Column 3 -- SYMPATHETIC

The SYMPATHETIC type is a quiet and calm communicator. In fact, they like to listen more than talk. They make good counselors because of the ability to be a good listener. The present a very sincere image when they communicate and are like the EXPRESSIVE type, people oriented.

However, their low key approach displays less enthusiasm in conversation. The SYMPATHETIC type is a team player and loyal. Consequently, their conversation reflects a need to be a part of the group. They like for relationships to be friendly and cordial and are actually turned off by aggressive communicators. Because SYMPATHETIC types like routine, their conversations often give support to little or no change in the organization. They need to feel appreciated and given time to adjust before being asked to make changes in their work habits.

#### Christine, Sarah, Tangi

#### Column 4 -- TECHNICAL

The TECHNICAL type of personality has a style of communicating which is characterized by order, detail, and logic. They function best in organizations that follow procedures and will communicate their displeasure if things are not orderly. The TECHNICAL type focuses on the details of a task because they are convergent thinkers. They must see the big picture is small parts or steps before moving on. TECHNICAL types work well with numbers, systematic procedures, and precise tasks.

TECHNICAL types are sometimes accused of being perfectionists and may overlook the human aspect of accomplishing a task. They like to follow procedures because it takes risk out of the environment for them. Their communication style is structured and has definite points. Note takers by nature, the TECHNICAL type strive to work and live in an orderly environment.



# FACLP

FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF CHILD LIFE PROFESSIONALS IN



The journey of integrating a new child life specialist begins with fostering a welcoming environment. This sets the tone for a supportive atmosphere and encourages open communication and collaboration

We integrate new specialists in a couple ways: 1) Team Building 2) Orientation 3) Mentorship



# Team building for new employees

- Welcome gifts
  - Joe DiMaggio T-shirt
  - Journal
  - Distraction items
- Team lunches
- Must complete the 16 personalities / B E S T communication test during orientation
- Fill out their birthday likes
- Create an all about me for their units (which we also use during our CL monthly staff meetings)



### **Current Orientation Process**

- Orient with each employee to understand the flow of their unit (cross coverage)
  - New employees: 3-4 week orientation spending the whole day with each member of our team
  - Hired students: 2-3 week orientation spending ½ day with each member of the team
- Introduce the new employee to key staff members on their assigned unit
- Rotate with integrative therapy team
- Shadow nurses on their assigned team
- Attend multidisciplinary meetings with new employee
  - Example: New PICU specialist attending bereavement psychosocial rounds with integrative team

			an Cabadula Juli	- 20 August 4 20							FA	LP
C.u.				/ 20-August 4, 202			<b>C-1</b>	1				
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu JULY 20	Fri	JULY 21	Sat				FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF CHIL	LIFE PROFESSIONALS INC.
				JULY 20 New Employee Orientation 7:45am-3:00pm at Signature Grand	Start at Meet with 9:30am-12 Meet with 1:00-5:3	JDCH Shannon 2:30pm h Paige	JULY 22					
JULY 23	JULY 24	JULY 25	JULY 26	JULY 27		JULY 28	JULY 29					
	Core Computer / EPIC Training at MTC Training Center Room #8	Ambulatory 8:00am-10:30am	Ambulatory 8:00am-10:30am	Ambulatory 8:00am-10:30am	Ambulatory			Brooke Orientation Schedule June 16- July 7, 2023				
'	8:00am-12:00pm	Day with Kelly CL Staff Relief	Day with Lotsy Resident Clown	Day with Tangi CCLS in Surgical	Sun	N	lon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	Day with Paige CCLS in RAD / EMUs 1:00pm-4:30pm	10:30am-4:30pm	10:30am-4:30pm	10:30am-4:30pm						JUNE 15 Memorial New Employee Orientation at	JUNE 16 Start at JDCH Meet with Shannon	JUNE 17
JULY 30	JULY 31 ½ Day with Alison Music Therapist	AUGUST 1 ½ Day with Juliette Music Therapist	AUGUST 2 ½ Day with Sarah CCLS in Cardiac	AUGUST 3 ½ Day with Lauren CCLS in CL Zone						Signature Grand 7:30am-1:00pm	9:30am-12:30pm Meet with Paige 1:00-5:30pm	
	8:30am-12:30pm ½ Day with Emily CCLS in Peds ED 1:00pm-5:00pm	8:30am-12:30pm ½ Day with Carmen CCLS for Pet Therapy 1:00pm-5:00pm	8:30am-12:30pm ½ Day with Brooke Yoga Therapist 1:00pm-5:00pm	3:30am-12:30pm 8:30am-12:30pm Day with Brooke ½ Day with Lulu Yoga Therapist Art Therapist		JUNE 19 Day with Lotsy Resident Clown 8:30am-5:00pm		JUNE 20 Day with Paige CCLS in Radiology and EMUs	JUNE 21 Day with Sarah CCLS in Cardiology 8:30am-5:00pm	JUNE 22 Day with Kelly Child Life Staff Relief 8:00am-4:30pm	· .	JUNE 24
AUGUST 6	Start independently in	AUGUST 8	AUGUST 9	AUGUST 10				8:30am-5:00pm			½ Day with Carmen CCLS in ED 1:00pm-5:00pm	
	Ambulatory 8:00am-4:30pm				JUNE 25	Music 1	JUNE 26 rith Juliette Therapist	JUNE 27 Day with Tangi CCLS in Surgical	JUNE 28 ½ Day with Brooke Yoga Therapist	JUNE 29 ½ Day with Rachel CCLS in Hem/Onc	JUNE 30 ½ Day in office and playroom	JULY 1
			05	2		½ Day w Music 1	i-12:30pm vith Alison Therapist n-5:00pm	7:30am-4:00pm	8:30am-12:30pm ½ Day with PICU Nurse 1:00pm-5:00pm	8:00am-12:00pm Crew Resource Management class @ MTC Training Center- 1:00pm-5:00-pm	½ Day with Emily CCLS in ED 1:00pm-5:00pm	6
					JULY 2	CCLS in 3	JULY 3 h Christine 3 Inpatient n-5:00pm	JULY 4 OFF for Holiday	JULY 5 ½ Day with Lauren CL Zone Coordinator 8:30am-12:30pm ½ Day with Matt Gaming Tech Specialist 1:00pm-5:00pm	JULY 6 ½ Day with PICU nurse 8:30am-12:30pm ½ Day with Lulu 1:00pm-5:00pm	JULY 7 JDCH New Employee Orientation 8:00am-3:00pm @ JDCH 4 <sup>th</sup> floor conference room	JULY 8



# **Differences in Onboarding Process**

#### Tangi

- Hired for a position that I covered during my internship
- 5 person team
- Abbreviated orientation
- No mentorship program
- Paige
  - Previous intern
  - Separation of buildings
  - No Mentorship program
- Rachel
  - Former Hospital vs. Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital
  - Length of onboarding
  - Assigned unit onboarding / units observed
  - Mentor program



Mentorship programs assist new child life specialists as they navigate the dynamics of an established team.

Benefits of mentorship:
1) Guidance
2) Shadowing Opportunities
3) Constructive Feedback



### Mentor/mentee

- Paige back work of the mentorship program
- Tangi- mentor
- Rachel- mentee
- Each new member of the team is assigned a mentor. Mentors are picked based on the following criteria
  - Years of service
  - Units covered pair mentees with a mentor that has the most experience in the unit they will be assigned to
  - Communication styles
  - Overall best fit



### Mentorship program

- 1:1 meetings with mentor (every other week)
  - Shadowing opportunities
- 1:1 meetings with child life manager (every other week)
- Established set of questions to review (58 page document)
  - Policy outlining mentorship expectations
  - Same questions for manager / mentor just backwards so that they are not the same questions each week

#### Areas of improvement:

- Open door policy not having to wait until assigned meeting date
- Consistency in meeting time/date- ex: every Wednesday at 2pm

# FACLP

FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF CHILD LIFE PROFESSIONAL

### Mentorship program

#### Mentor / New Employee Meeting #2

Date:

1. What are you looking forward to most about being here at Joe D / in you unit?

2. What are you anticipating being your biggest challenge as you settle into your position?

3. Are you feeling supported by your teammates and/or supervisor?

4. Do you have any questions regarding any of the policies/procedures/expectations thus far?

- 5. \*Review last week's goals\* What are three professional and/or personal goals for the upcoming week?
  - a.
  - b.

  - c.

Child Life Manager / New Employee Meeting #2

Date:

- 1. What have been your highlights of the week?
- 2. What have been your challenges of the week?

3. What growth do you feel you've made?

4. How comfortable are you in voicing your questions or concerns to me as your supervisor and/or other members of the team? Are you feeling supported and welcomed by teammates?

5. Are there any policies and/or procedures you would like to discuss further or review?

6. Any interactions you'd like to discuss?



### Mentorship program question examples

- What have been your highlights / challenges of the week?
- What is a recent recognition and/or praise that you have received?
- What are new resources that you have created for your education or preparation?
- What is a new skill that you have mastered lately?
- What has been the most valuable lesson you have learned in the past two weeks?
- What are 3 characteristics/values that a patient has taught you?
- Tell me about a time you feel you went above and beyond for a patient/family in the past two weeks:
- How do you feel best supported by your teammates and/or manager?
- What are 3 positive qualities that you feel you contribute to the child life team?
- What are 3 things that you are proud of lately? (either personally or professionally)



# With a growing team it is important to promote an inclusive environment that values and respects the contributions of all team members.

We foster creativity and innovation in 3 ways: 1) Task forces 2) Skills days 3) Special projects



### **Task Forces**

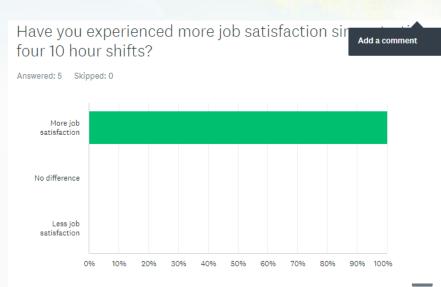
- Goal: support an inclusive environment that embraces creativity and innovation
- Everyone on our team is assigned to specific task forces (students, team building, staffing).
  - Assigned to task forces based off strengths, passions, skills, project initiatives
  - Helps to support ideas at a unit, department, and systematic level
- New employees are not assigned to a task force until they have reached a year of employment.



# Task Forces accomplishments

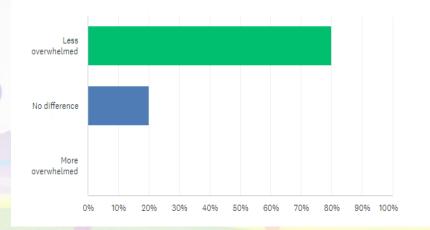
#### Staffing

- Research for new grants and positions
  - Since 2018, our team has grown from 7 CCLS and no assistants to 13 CCLS and 3 child life assistants (in addition to 2 music therapists, 1 art therapist, 1 yoga therapist, and a gaming tech specialist)
  - Full-time pet therapy handler to enhance pet therapy program
- Proposed working 4- 10 hour shifts to improve staff satisfaction, reduce burn out, and increase quality of patient interactions
  - 6-week trial, but is now our current schedule. Staff has reported experiencing a higher level of satisfaction since switching



Are you feeling less overwhelmed with your workload since converting to four 10 hour shifts?

Answered: 5 Skipped: 0





## Task Forces accomplishments

#### Students

- Practicum
  - Summer
  - Typically take 2 practicum at a time
  - Partnership with Nicklaus Children's Hospital in Miami
- Internship
  - Fall and spring
  - Previously, we were not accredited and any of us could have interns. But now we are officially **accredited** through ACLP and follow their • guidelines
  - Last fall we had 54 applicants / interviewed 28
- Hosted a student refresher course each season for the CLS prior to having a student
  - Redefined expectations
  - **Discussed** goals •
  - Assignments





Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital

#### **Mentoring Students**

What is expected of you and what to expect of them.

Presented By: Student Task Force Carly & Carmen

#### Expectations of an Internship Preceptor/Mentor

- SLOW DOWN and TALK IT OUT! Students cannot read your mind. Through explaining your rationale/reasoning behind what you are doing, you are teaching them how to problem solve, be observant, prioritize, and multitask. Without explaining, they become lost.
  - Example: "I know we were going to go into this room, but I just got called for a procedure.....
  - Example: "Did you notice that mom was distracting the child, and the child was responding well.. so I didn't jump in and try to overtake mom's role'
- Process before and after each intervention.
- Remember that students are new to all of this and they are not expected to know everything!

- Orienting them to the field of child life
- Create a variety of opportunities for learning
  - Being creative with downtime!
    - Discuss a new diagnosis or procedure prep they have not yet seen or are comfortable with
    - Role-play
    - · Review your resources/books
- Setting an example of professionalism
- Integrating student into working with a multidisciplinary team
- Allowing time to debrief



### Task Forces accomplishments

#### Team building

- Boosting team morale
- Celebrating milestones
  - **Birthday buddies** •
  - Engagements
  - Baby showers
  - Professional awards
- COVID celebrations
  - Thankful Thursdays
  - Motivational quotes
  - "You've been mugged"
- Communication styles
  - 16 personalities
- National Holidays



POSITIVE ENERGY







THINK 'PAWSITIVE





### **Skills Days**

- **Goal**: to enhance skills in each unit and promote familiarity with common procedures on specific units
- Protocols
  - Description
  - Assessments
  - Intervention
  - Normalization
  - Resources, education, accommodations
- Presentation to child life team
- Sign off on skills



#### Child Life Protocol

Preparation for: Traumatic Brain Injury

Date Created: November 24, 2020

#### Unit: Peds Rehab

CDC defines a traumatic brain injury (TBI) as a disruption in the normal function of the brain that can be caused by a bump, blow, or jolt to the head, or penetrating head injury.

Admission to peds rehab goal: working towards returning patient to their baseline prior to the injury.

#### Cranial nerve damage may result in:

- Paralysis of facial muscles or losing sensation in the face
- Loss of or altered sense of senses: taste, smell, sight, hearing
- Swallowing problems
- Dizziness
- Ringing in the ear / loss of hearing

#### Cognitive problems

- · Memory loss (short term and long term)
- Organization of thoughts
- Speech / writing
- Reasoning
- Judgment
- Attention or concentration

#### Executive functioning problems

- Problem-solving
- Multitasking
- Organization
- Planning
- Decision-making
- Beginning or completing tasks
- Impaired hand-eye coordination

#### **Behavioral Changes:**

- Difficulty with self-control
- Lack of awareness of abilities
- Risky behavior
- Difficulty in social situations
- Verbal or physical outbursts

#### Emotional changes

- Depression
- Anxiety
- Mood swings
- Anger / Irritability
- Lack of empathy for others

#### Insomnia

- Physical changes
  - Loss of movement (arms / legs)
  - Inability to perform activities of daily living (eating, dressing, grooming)
- Incontinence
- (https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/traumatic-brain-injury/symptoms-causes/sys-20378557)

#### Intervention steps:

#### Introduction of services:

- Most of my TBIs are from outside hospitals and are transferred to our rehab unit when they are medically stable
- I will help to explain how there is a <u>strict daily schedule</u> posted on the front of the patient's door every single day with scheduled therapy sessions, time, and duration.
- I will also explain the importance of <u>being ready on time</u> for therapies in order to keep our therapists on track for their day.
- Normalization of hospital environment:
  - Every patient is provided with door name sign, decorative pillow case, comfort items, blankets, appropriate toys etc. upon admission
- Assessments made on first interaction:
  - Patient's knowledge of admission
  - Patient's physical capabilities to plan for future bedside activities / involvement in child life activities
    - Ability to walk, necessary equipment for transport (wheelchair, walker, stander, etc.), head control, hand movement, fine motor skills, etc.
  - Patient's cognitive capabilities
    - Communication (speech / processing), memory, orientation to date/time/year, etc.
  - Patient's understanding of medical equipment such as walkers, wheelchairs, feeding, trach, etc.
    - Address any misconceptions and/or provide education if needed
- Daily reminders for patients \*laminated visual representations to display in the room where it is easily seen from bed for patient\*
   Staff names / role in rehab
  - o Orientation (where they are, what day it is, what year it is, why they are here)
  - o Safety (large laminated signs to remind patient not to get out of bed, or to call nurse)
  - o Goals for discharge home
  - Daily Routine
- Co-treating with therapists
  - o Providing distraction and/or coping mechanisms (get overwhelmed very easily)
  - Encouragement / redirection (get distracted very easily)
  - Incorporating child life events into therapy sessions (in appropriate equipment)

Play items that are helpful for TBI patients \*the appropriateness level will vary patient to patient based on severity of injury\*

- Memory and matching games
- Critical thinking/strategy games: (uno, jenga, scrabble, chess/checkers)
- Mad limbs
- · Cause and effect toys / suction cup toys
- Sensory (stress balls, playdough)

#### Resources given:

Comfort items, name tag for door, daily schedule, safety reminders, sticker chart for compliance (if age appropriate), appropriate toys / stimulation, sensory items

If a G-tube, NG-tube, or trach information is needed for patients or siblings there are resources under shared child life folder > rehab unit > coverage > education and preparation

#### Additional information:

#### Accommodations for TBI patients:

- Visual representations of daily reminders
- Strict routine (therapies, eating, lights on / lights off time, downtime activities)
- · Frequent breaks (therapies are often broken down into multiple small segments throughout the day)
- Minimal stimulation (often TBI patients have limited visitors allowed, limited screen time, stc)

\*\*Refer to pages 119-122 in WEEFIM Clinical Guide\*\*

FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF CHILD LIFE PROFESSIONALS IN



### **Special Projects**

- **Goal**: Everyone on the team is encouraged to express their creativity in areas that they are passionate about examples may include:
  - One Voice
  - Special needs
  - Pain management
  - Bibliotherapy
  - Bereavement
  - Siblings
- The child life team is provided an update from each project lead during staff meetings and huddles



With a growing team it is essential to establish trust and effective communication between new members of the team and existing teammates.

We establish effective communication by: 1) Identifying Communication Styles 2) Utilizing Accountability Partners



# **Establishing Effective Communication**

- Encourage open dialogue, active listening, and empathy for teammates
- "B E S T" communication style
  - Bold, expressive, sympathetic, technical
- Myers Briggs 16 Personality Quiz
- Love languages
  - Words of affirmation, acts of service, time spent, physical touch, gifts
- Accountability partners
  - Older members paired based off the BEST communication
  - New members- paired based off the 16 personalities
- Mentorship program
  - Constructive feedback / praise
  - New specialists feelings vs established specialists feelings



### **Communication styles**

	Team	Personality	Personality Name	MIND	ENERGY	NATURE	Tactics	Identity	
	ream	Туре		E vs I	N vs S	T vs F	J vs P	A vs T	
	Carmen	ESFJ-A	Consul	Extroverted 71%	Observant 62%	Feeling 81%	Judging 51%	Assertive 61%	
	Paige	ESFJ-T	Consul	Extroverted 53%	Observant 59%	Feeling 83%	Judging 83%	Turbulent 56%	
	Daniella	ESFJ-A	Consul	Extroverted 75%	Observant 70%	Feeling 67%	Judging 86%	Assertive 57%	
	Rachel	ESFJ-A	Consul	Extroverted 71%	Observant 54%	Feeling 78%	Judging 57%	Assertive 51%	
	Caroline	ENFJ-T	Protagonist	Extroverted 75%	Intuitive 73%	Feeling 74%	Judging 86%	Turbulent 74%	
	Jessica	ENFJ-T	Protagonist	Extroverted 71%	Intuitive 69%	Feeling 78%	Judging 72%	Turbulent 53%	
	Shannon	INFP- T	Mediator	Introverted 67%	Intuitive 53%	Feeling 85%	Prospecting 63%	Turbulent 54%	
	Christine	INFP-A	Mediator	Introverted 85%	Intuitive 73%	Feeling 99%	Prospecting 51%	Assertive 56%	
	Tangi	ISFJ-A	Defender	Introverted 51%	Observant 53%	Feeling 78%	Judging 69%	Assertive 57%	
	Lauren	ISFJ-T	Defender	Introverted 56%	Observant 59%	Feeling 83%	Judging 54%	Turbulent 63%	
	Sarah	ISFJ-T	Defender	Introverted 63%	Observant 56%	Feeling 69%	Judging 71%	Turbulent 69%	
	Emily	INFJ-T	Advocate	Introverted 55%	Intuitive 52%	Feeling 74%	Judging 63%	Turbulent 57%	
	Brooke	INFJ-T	Advocate	Introverted 55%	Intuitive 55%	Feeling 82%	Judging 68%	Turbulent 53%	



FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF CHILD LIFE PROFESSIONALS IN

### Accountability partners

- Assigned based off **opposite** communication styles (according to the BEST personality test)
  - think differently, process differently, approach things differently.
  - The purpose of the accountability partners is to reduce the amount of discussion with multiple teammates.
  - Accountability partners are to remain trustworthy and loyal to their partner and should not discuss the conversations with anyone else on the team.

#### Column 1 -- BOLD

The BOLD type uses a style of communications that is most often direct. The BOLD type likes the bottom line and works at making things practical. Consequently, the BOLD type's conversation is short, to the point, and sometimes can be blunt. In addition, the BOLD type sometimes likes to be combative because s/he likes challenges. In other words, the BOLD is stimulated by the adventure of a "heated" discussion. This discussion can end up with the BOLD intimidating others into silence.

The BOLD type is a divergent thinker and because of this, is sometimes accused of not listening. That is, the BOLD is thinking of a rebuttal while you are talking. However, this same quality makes the BOLD type a good problem-solver.

The BOLD type's communication style reflects a need to be independent, free, practical, and domineering. While the BOLD is good at visualizing the big picture, details of how to make it happen are sometimes a problem.

Carly

#### Column 2 -- EXPRESSIVE

The EXPRESSIVE type personality uses a style of communications that reflects a need to be involved with people. In other words, the EXPRESSIVE type likes to talk and is good at it. To the EXPRESSIVE type, persuading others is stimulating. Consequently, the EXPRESSIVE type is a good presenter by nature because of her/his ability to relate to people. In fact, research indicates that EXPRESSIVE types have a natural ability to understand the emotional state of others and researchers think this ability is actually a kind of human intelligence. Another characteristic of the EXPRESSIVE type is that they often talk with word pictures and in emotional terms. They like to communicate a positive and optimistic message.

The EXPRESSIVE type is driven by a need to influence others, be popular, and to gain public recognition. Their communication abilities make them good salespeople, teachers, presenter, politicians, and actors. The EXPRESSIVE type, of all the personality types, is the natural communicator.



#### Column 3 -- SYMPATHETIC

The SYMPATHETIC type is a quiet and calm communicator. In fact, they like to listen more than talk. They make good counselors because of the ability to be a good listener. The present a very sincere image when they communicate and are like the EXPRESSIVE type, people oriented.

However, their low key approach displays less enthusiasm in conversation. The SYMPATHETIC type is a team player and loyal. Consequently, their conversation reflects a need to be a part of the group. They like for relationships to be friendly and cordial and are actually turned off by aggressive communicators. Because SYMPATHETIC types like routine, their conversations often give support to little or no change in the organization. They need to feel appreciated and given time to adjust before being asked to make changes in their work habits.

#### Christine, Sarah, Tangi

#### Column 4 -- TECHNICAL

The TECHNICAL type of personality has a style of communicating which is characterized by order, detail, and logic. They function best in organizations that follow procedures and will communicate their displeasure if things are not orderly. The TECHNICAL type focuses on the details of a task because they are convergent thinkers. They must see the big picture is small parts or steps before moving on. TECHNICAL types work well with numbers, systematic procedures, and precise tasks.

TECHNICAL types are sometimes accused of being perfectionists and may overlook the human aspect of accomplishing a task. They like to follow procedures because it takes risk out of the environment for them. Their communication style is structured and has definite points. Note takers by nature, the TECHNICAL type strive to work and live in an orderly environment.





### What has worked

- Assigned shadowing based on coverage
- Bi-weekly meetings with mentor
  - Open door policy per the mentor
- Personality Tests
  - Improve communication and understanding between team members
- Task forces



### What we are still improving

- Setting up consistent meeting times with mentors/mentees
- Retaining staff
- Internship program
  - On pause
- Accountability partners / Mentorship program
  - Continued learning experience



### Take Aways

- Accentuate the positive, Follow the golden rule, the body only functions as a whole with the participation of it's parts. –Tangi
  - There are numerous ways to embrace team dynamics
  - Team dynamics are forever evolving, as seasons change, teammates change, and circumstances change. It's important to continue to re-evaluate the needs of the team.
  - Working together as a collaborative team takes effort from all parties involved – support from management, teamwork, open minds, patience, and grace are the key components to a collaborative team!



# Any Questions?

# Please remember to go on cvent and fill out the session survey!