

# Collaborative Adventures



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*Make Practice Perfect: Getting the Most out of WrapInfo.org*

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Wraparound. It's a seemingly easy concept to grasp; a youth and family have needs and you help them connect with supports that will meet those needs. But for its simplicity, the wraparound approach can sometimes feel cluttered with many different nuances, principles and approaches. For someone just getting involved in wraparound, and even for veterans, having access to resources to keep up with this ever-evolving practice is a must.

Whether or not we admit it, one of the first ways we evaluate a resource is by asking the question "Does this make my life easier or better?" Spend a few minutes visiting [www.WrapInfo.org](http://www.WrapInfo.org) and you'll likely answer yes. But before you get too "wrapped" up in the scope of this web portal, let's examine some of the key resources currently available:

## ***National Wraparound Initiative***

Ask five different wraparound coordinators what wraparound is and you may just get five different answers. The NWI exists to bridge that gap between wraparound models and develop standards for both wraparound practices and evaluation. When you visit this site, check out the Tools and Techniques section. You'll find useful templates and files that are broken down into different the phases of wraparound, from engagement through transition.

## ***Resource Guide to Wraparound***

The Resource Guide to Wraparound is an ongoing effort from the National Wraparound Initiative. The Resource Guide houses practical examples, articles and true-life success stories amongst other resources. If our other articles in this issue of Collaborative Adventures intrigued you, be sure to visit Section 4 (Wraparound Practice) of the resource guide. You'll find a wealth of information on family and youth involvement in the wraparound process.

## ***Wraparound Evaluation and Research Team***

In our next issue of Collaborative Adventures, we will be discussing *How to Communicate System of Care Results*. The core to any solid message about your system of care is data. A popular tool that is quickly becoming an industry standard is the Wraparound Fidelity Index. The WFI is a tool utilized to measure the success of implementation of wraparound in a given community. It examines multiple aspects of involvement from youth and families, care coordinators and even community supports. The WFI is quickly becoming an accessible and easy to understand method of explaining how well your system of care is performing.

So add [www.WrapInfo.org](http://www.WrapInfo.org) to your favorite bookmarks and visit it often. As quickly as the wraparound process evolves so does this portal and you're likely to always find a new and useful resource that will help make your journey through wraparound all the more simple and intuitive. Want to share a unique and exciting wraparound tool that you've discovered? E-mail the Choices TA Center at [TACenter@ChoicesTeam.org](mailto:TACenter@ChoicesTeam.org)