

CIRCLE OF CARE APPROACH

Case Study

FAMILY PROFILE

- Referred in March 2011 as part of his family unit, comprising mother (29 yrs), Father (31yrs) and child (3 months)
- Parent in process of separated after birth of child.
- Mother moved out of family home into temporary accommodation.
- Child received into care Nov 2011.
- Mother committed suicide Dec 2011.



FOCUS PERSON PROFILE

- Male 31yrs, long standing history of opiate, benzodiazepine and cannabis use.
- HepC positive, preparing for treatment.
- Engaged with drug and alcohol treatment services = 80mls of methadone in addition to 5mg of benzodiazepines daily.
- Continued Illicit use of heroin, street valium and cannabis.
- Social Work Services considering closed adoption of infant.
- Father's requesting to care for child.



CARE PLAN

- Create opportunity and support contact between father and son, promote play & attachment.
- Assess and develop parenting capacity.
- Recognise life event as potential catalyst for change in relation to substance use.
- Simultaneously assess and develop recovery capital.



RECOVERY CAPITAL

- Social Isolation
- Dislocated from Community
- Low/Medium Confidence
- Low Self Efficacy
- Low Self Esteem



REVIEWING SUPPORT PLAN (3/6 MONTHS)

Support Plan

Support Contact
Assess and develop
parenting capacity/
Recovery Capital

Achieved/
Significant progress
being made.

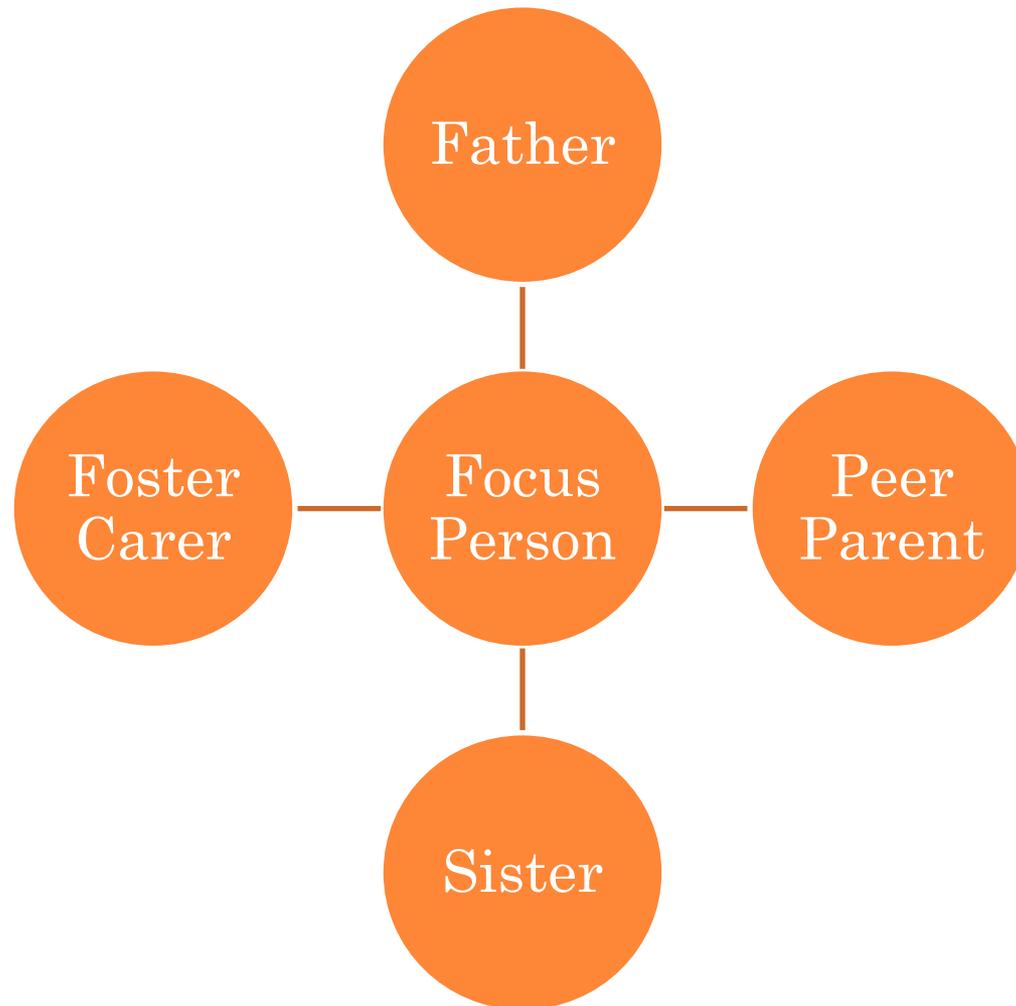
Circle of Care

Beginning to think
of benefits of a
Circle of care
approach

Challenges and
opportunities.



USEFUL TOOLS: ECO MAPS



INVITING CIRCLE MEMBERS

- Decided by Focus Person
- Facilitator spoke with FC & PP on joint home visit =

Explore

Roles and Responsibilities

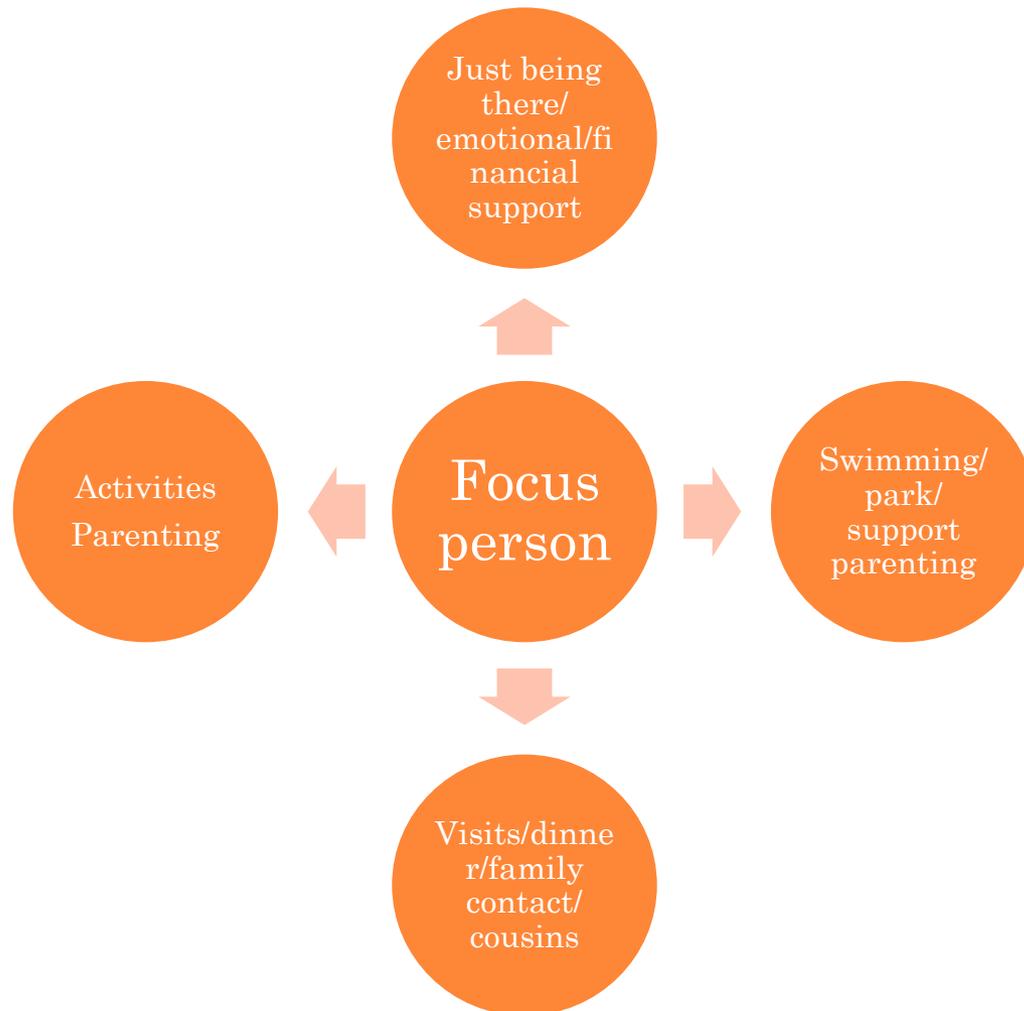
Confidentiality

Commitment and Boundaries

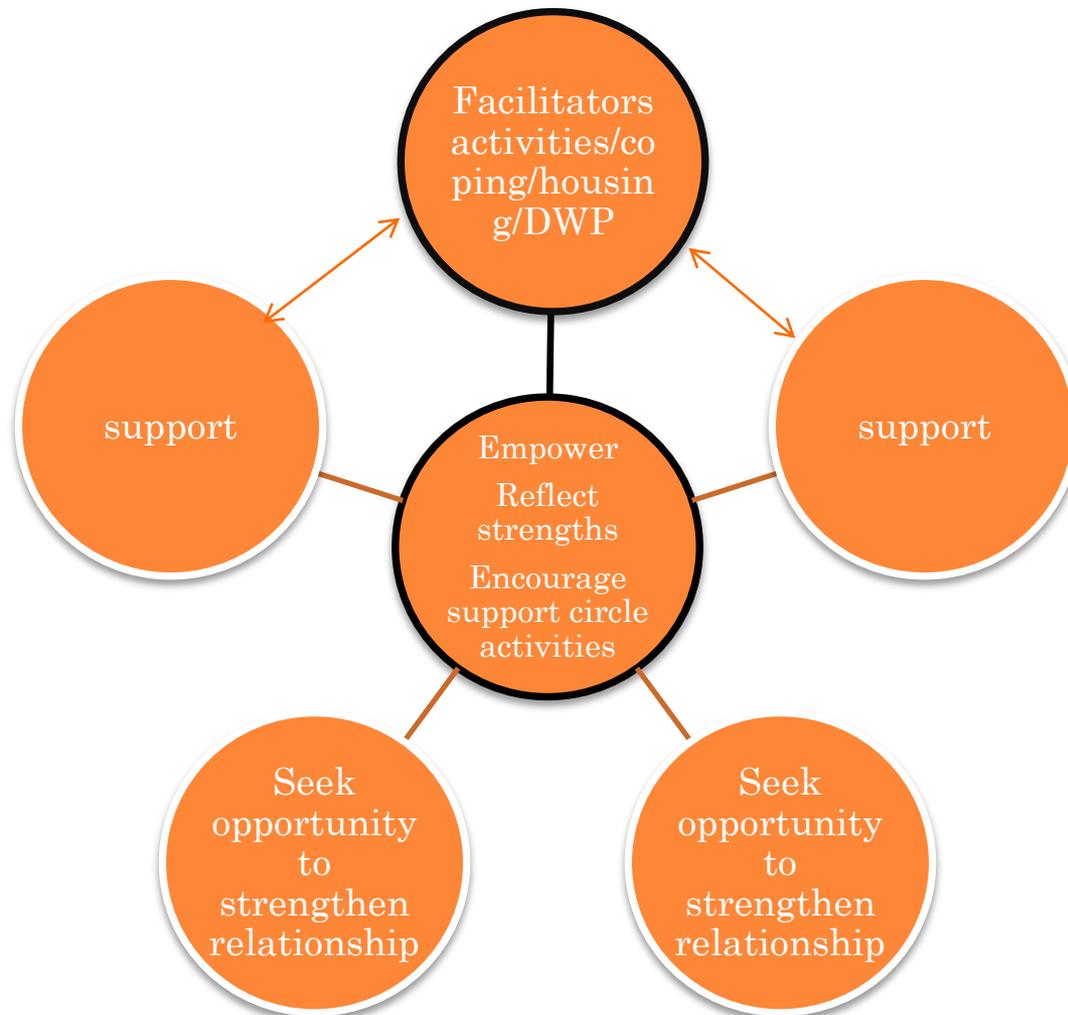
- Apprehensive re service involvement with father & sister (feelings of shame/fear)



CIRCLE MEMBERS ACTIVITIES



FACILITATORS ROLE



FREQUENCY/NATURE OF CONTACT

- Main contact with Focus Person (weekly)

Implementing support plan / Circle of Care

(a) Focus on parenting/child development

(b) Checking in on 'Circle' activities.

(c) Reflect strengths/achievements.

- Monthly contact with members.

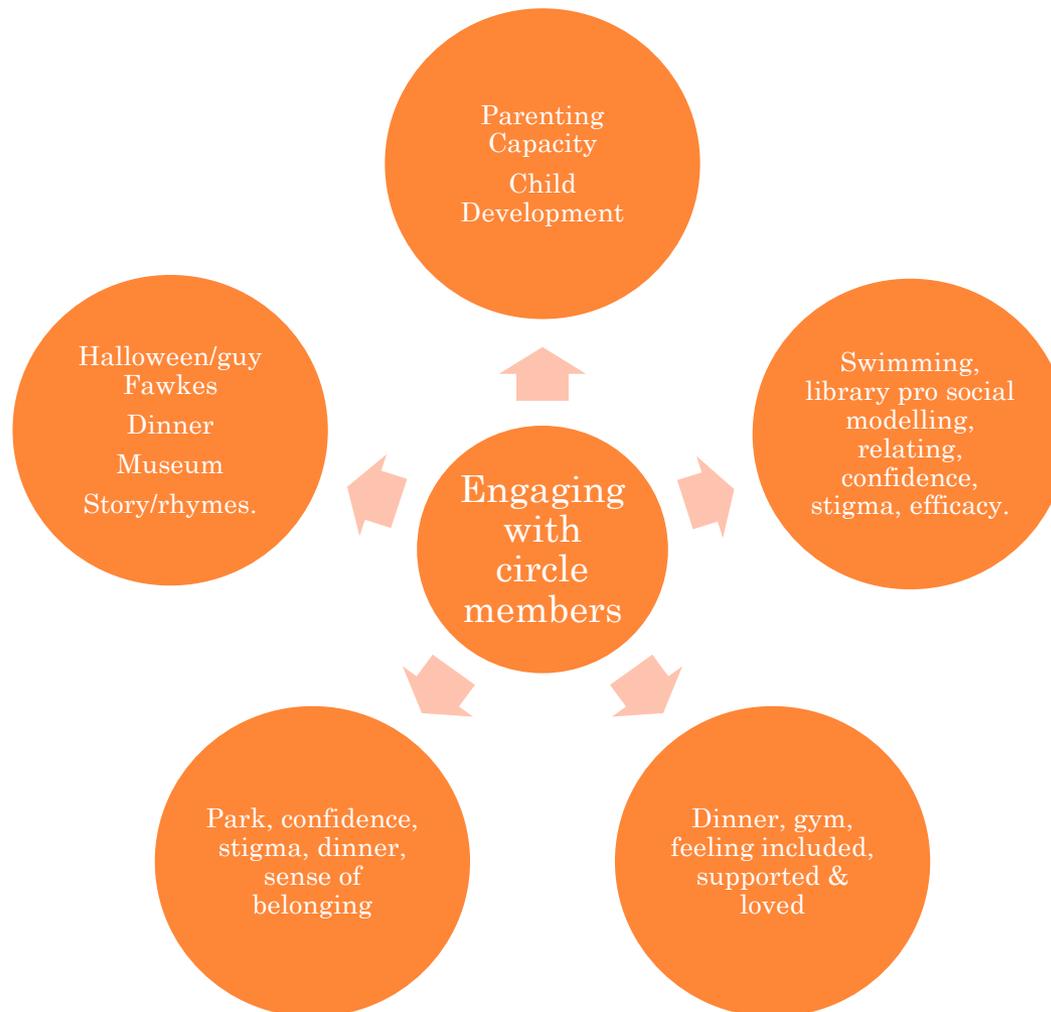
(a) Telephone call / Home visit

(b) Checking out and offering support (if necessary)

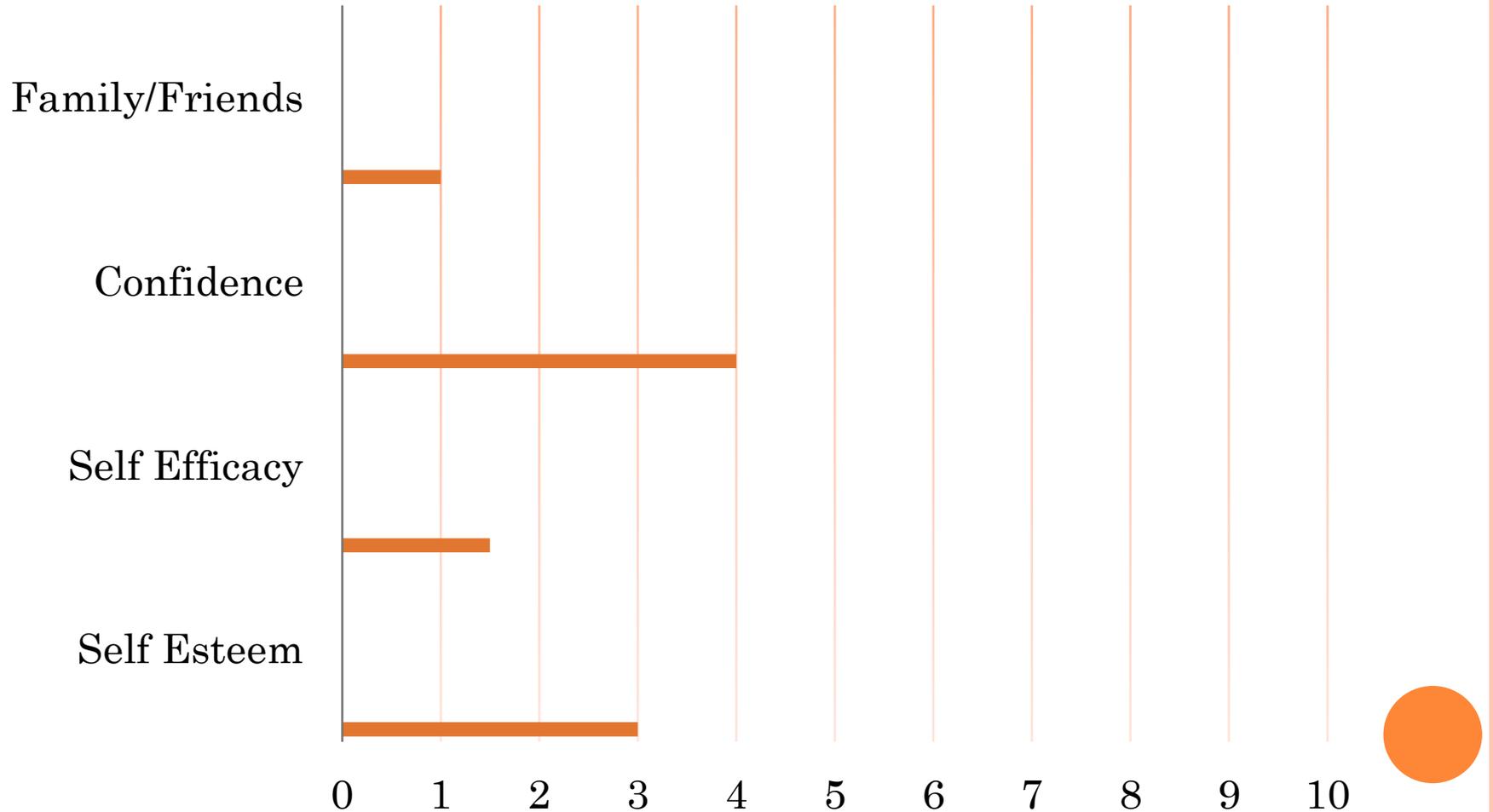
(c) Provide encouragement, reinforce achievements.



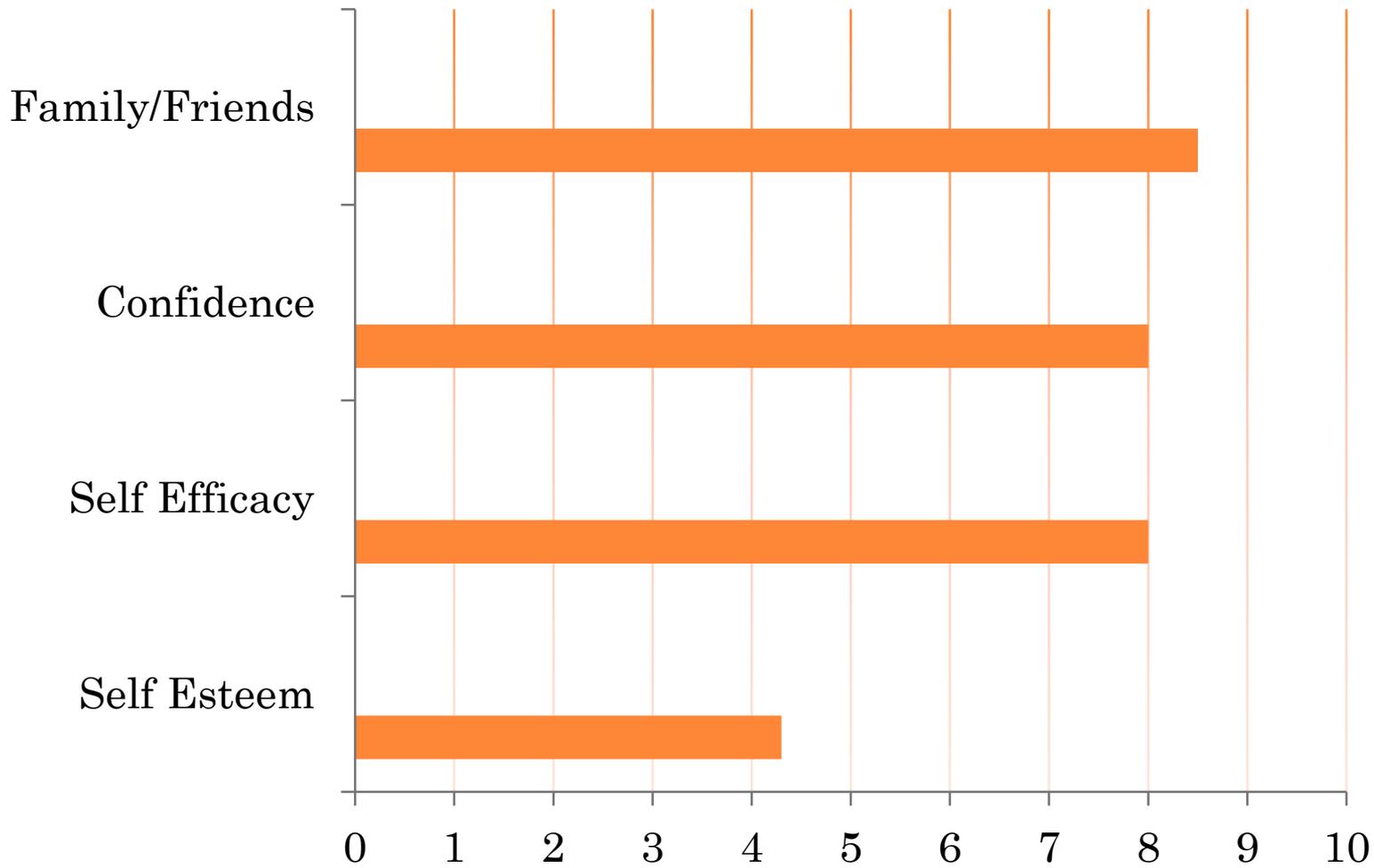
CIRCLE PERFORMING



SCALING BEFORE



SCALING AFTER



OUTCOMES

BENEFITS OF A CIRCLE OF CARE APPROACH

- Increased Recovery Capital.
- Parent and child involved in community activity (playgroup, park, swimming, library).
- More confident and competent parent (Strength based/systemic approach).
- Increased opportunity for nurturing, sense of belonging and identity.

