

# TRAUMA FOCUSED COGNITIVE BEHAVIORAL THERAPY

#### **ABOUT TF-CBT**

- TF-CBT is a structured, short-term therapy designed to help young people overcome the impact of traumatic events.
- A trained TF-CBT therapist meets with the child and the parent once per week for 4 to 6 months (12 to 24 weeks).
- This family-focused treatment aims to teach effective coping strategies and make positive changes in the youth's social environment to aid recovery and maintain progress.
- TF-CBT is scientifically proven to reduce symptoms of posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD), depression and anxiety caused or worsened by traumatic events.

## WHAT ARE TRAUMATIC EVENTS?

Traumatic events can include but are not limited to:

- Physical or Sexual Abuse
- Domestic violence
- Community or School violence
- Natural disasters (eg. hurricanes, earthquakes)
- Serious accidents or life threatening illness
- Sudden or violent loss of a loved one
- Neglect or abandonments
- Witnessing traumatic events

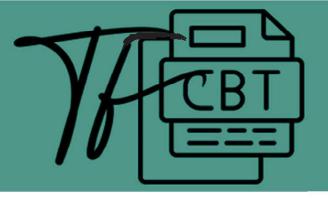
### **COMPONENTS OF TF-CBT**

Session Time: 50-90 minutes

Therapists may meet with the youth or parent separately or together, based on the session goals.
Sessions include education and skill

- development, including:
- Education about traumatic events and common reactions
- Teaching parents or caregivers strategies for managing acting- out behaviors
- Relaxation and stress management training
- Learning to express feelings
- Addressing unhelpful thoughts, beliefs, and attitudes
- Youth telling their story about what happened
- Improving family communication about the traumatic event
- Learning and practicing skills to increase safety and prevent future trauma





## CTRN TF-CBT RESEARCH STUDY REQUIREMENTS

## AN INDIVIDUAL MAY PARTICIPATE IF THEY:

## **CONTACT INFO**

- Age 8 to 20 years of age
- Have experienced one or more traumatic events
- Are experiencing posttraumatic stress symptoms
- Are willing to join the Texas Childhood Trauma Research Network (TX-CTRN)
- If under 18, have a consenting parent/guardian who will participate in therapy sessions

Childhood Trauma Research Network Interest Form



## **RESEARCH PARTICIPATION INVOLVES**

- Completing at least 12 weekly therapy sessions within 4 months, with up to 24 sessions provided within 8 mont is as needed
- Weekly mental health assessments for both the youth and a participating parent/guardian (if under 18)
- Completing 6 clinical assessment visits separate from Therapy sessions over two years, coinciding with and continuing after therapy sessions



