# Narrative Evaluation (NE)

Capturing Complexity through Storied Conversations & Chronology

Alice Walters, LMSW, MATS

WALDEN UNIVERSITY

A higher degree. A higher purpose.

## The "Hybrid" Process

- 1. Appreciative Inquiry: "What's working?"
- 2. Generate a **chronological narrative** of personal experience
- 3. Co-construct outcomes with evaluator

## Why Narrative?

<b>Evaluation Challenges</b>	Narrative Solution
Participation	Individual Meaning
Data Collection	Therapeutic Uses
Data Analysis	Therapeutic Uses
Static	Chronology is Dynamic over time
One-time	Continuous Culture of Evaluation

#### References

- Baú, V. (2016). A narrative approach in evaluation: "Narratives of Change" method. *Qualitative Research Journal*, 16(4), 374-387.
- Clandinin, D. J. & Connelly, F. M. (2000). *Narrative inquiry:*Experience and story in qualitative research. San Francisco,
  CA: Jossey-Bass.
- Cooperrider, D. L. & Whitney, D. (2005). *Appreciative inquiry: A positive revolution in change*. San Francisco, CA: Berrett-KoehlerPublishers.
- Riessman, C. K. (2008). *Narrative methods for the human services.*Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.
- Wellman, J., Lepori, F., & Szlachcic, R. (2016). Exploring the utility of a pilot tree of life group in an inpatient setting. *The Journal of Mental Health Training, Education and Practice, 11*(3), 172-181.
- Westerhof G.J., Beernink, J., & Sools, A. (2016). Who am I? A life story intervention for persons with intellectual disability and psychiatric problems. *Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities*, 54(3), 173-186.

### **NE Concepts**

- Context
- Continuum
- History
- Tentativeness
- Temporal results
- Continuity
- Wholeness
- Positionality
  Time, Space, Experience
- Relational

## **Vulnerable Populations**

- Individualized
- Meaningful
- Captures Change
- Flexible
- Positive
- Therapeutic: Identity, Memory, Organization, Reflection

#### **Empowerment**

- Participatory
- Collaborative
- Adaptive
- Inclusive

Contact Alice Walters at: aliceannwalters@gmail.com