MIND THE GAP!
CRISIS INTERVENTION AND PREVENTION FOR CHILDREN
AND ADULTS WITH DISABILITIES AND BEHAVIORAL
HEALTH NEEDS

• Existing Crisis Intervention
  - Police
  - Emergency Transport
  - Hospital Emergency Room
  - Respite – for SOME adults in the HCBS-DD
  Waiver

• Existing Prevention
  - Behavioral Services through DD Waivers – for
    SOME
  - Behavioral Services through school districts – for
    SOME
  - Behavioral Services through private insurance for
    SOME – autism diagnosis – CO plan
  - Psychiatrists – for SOME
  - Respite – for SOME – but not therapeutic
  - Psychologists – for SOME

• GAPS IN BEHAVIORAL SERVICES
  - Waiting Lists for HCBS-DD Waivers
  - For Children over 6 no access if the child sleeps
    through the night
  - State Plan Medicaid does not cover even under
    EPSDT
  - ERISA private insurance – doesn’t have to cover

MIND THE GAP!

• Gaps in Psychiatric Services
  - Shortage of child psychiatrists
  - Shortage of psychiatrists who know and
    understand people with communication
    disorders
  - Lack of research on what to do
  - Lots of experimentation with medications

MIND THE GAP!

• Gaps in Respite
  - Payment sources for SOME through SLS and CES
  - May give family a break, but not usually
    therapeutic
  - Hours not days, weeks or months
  - Not structured
  - No oversight or coordination with psych
  - No oversight or coordination with medical
  - No structure or purpose to understand the
    behaviors better or if medication is working
  - No learning of self-calming skills

MIND THE GAP!
MIND THE GAP!

- Gaps in Police and EMTs
  - Not all officers are trained
  - Not mental health professionals
  - Not DD professionals

MIND THE GAP!

- Gaps in Coordination
  - No single record of medication trials or health status
  - Little understanding of payment sources
  - Little understanding of resource and referral
  - Little relationship with ED, Police
  - Little relationship with other community providers
  - Rarely a plan – mostly puts out fires

MIND THE GAP!

- Carol Meredith
- The Arc Arapahoe & Douglas
- 6538 South Racine Circle
- Centennial CO 80111
- 303-220-9228
- carol@arc-ad.org
- www.arc-ad.org

Mind the Gap!