

## Women, Co-occurring Disorders and Violence Study Principles

- Service providers must better recognize the presence of trauma, past and present, as a central concern in a woman's life.
- Women should be encouraged to play an active role in their healing process and provided with a better understanding of how to do so, from the onset.
- There must be a more widespread and comprehensive recognition that violence and trauma significantly impact a person's belief system, self-perception and relationships with others.
- Providers need to meet women where they are mentally and emotionally, with careful readiness assessments, pacing and patience.

Summary of principles prepared by ADAD in January 2005