

Basic Questions to reflect on when considering Mandatory Reporting¹

- **Why are you asking people to report**
 - What is the rationale?
 - What are the underlying assumptions about
 - The harm, the likelihood of harm
 - Individual harms (harms by a person)
 - Systemic harms (harms by the way the system works)
 - Combination?
 - Which are you focusing on?
 - What are the underlying assumptions about
 - The setting(s)
 - The people living in that setting
 - The people who work or operate in the setting
 - What are the underlying assumptions about
 - How people currently recognize and respond to harms in this setting
 - What reporting accomplishes or can accomplish
- **What is the intended purpose of reporting**
 - Prevention/ intervention
 - Internal response
 - External response
 - System alerts
 - System management
- **What are you asking people to report**
 - Which harms?
 - Why these ones?
 - How are these tied to the underlying assumptions
- **What happens after the report is made?**
 - What is the expectation?
 - What is the reality?
 - Outcomes - Does the reporting help? Who, how and why?

¹ Prepared by Charmaine Spencer, February, 2016, BCARCN Webinar. "Mandatory reporting of mistreatment of adults : effective panacea or feel good placebo? "