Handout 3

A Closer Look: Barriers

In each of these three stories, the speakers discuss their experiences and barriers to mental health supports specific to their culture and/or identity.

Story 1: Tunchai and Lindsay

1. a) How does access to services and mental health supports differ in rural regions compared to urban regions?

b) How might this impact Indigenous people living in rural regions?

- 2. Tunchai and Lindsay mention a number of other ways they find support that are integral to their Indigenous identity.
 - a. List the examples they give.

b	. Which examples, if any,	are <mark>familiar</mark>	to you?	Which ones	s are <mark>unfamiliar</mark>	or less
	familiar to you?					

c. Are there sources of support in your culture that are similar or different to the ones Tunchai and Lindsay mention? Explain.

3. What connection(s) do you see between Tunchai and Lindsay's story and the other stories we watched?

Story 2: Maryam and Aswani

- 1. What did Aswani feel when she started university?
- 2. What did Maryam see that made her aware that Aswani was struggling with her mental health?
- 3. a) How did Aswani's **culture** affect her mental health journey?
 - b) Once Aswani started receiving treatment, what additional barriers did she face with her family?
- 4. Connecting to help:
 - a. How was Maryam able to connect Aswani to help?
 - b. After connecting Aswani to help, what did Maryam continue to do?
- 5. Maryam said that "recovery isn't linear." What do you think that means? Explain.

6. What connection(s) do you see between Maryam and Aswani's story and the other stories?

Story 3: Kirbie and Estyr

1. How did Kirbie's	s upbringing and	identity affect	their ability	y to seek	mental	health
support?						

2. The helper:

a. How did Estyr's past experiences as "a helper" influence her role as Kirbie's primary support person?

b. In what way(s) did her previous experiences affect the choices she made as she supported Kirbie?

3. Why was broadening their support system important for Kirbie? How did it help them?

4. What connection(s) do you see between Kirbie and Estyr's story and the other stories?