**Maine TWBL: Progressive Employment Training**

**Session 2 Fieldwork: Prep for session 3**

**Karen Case: Yes or No to Progressive Employment for Karen**

Karen, 38, has been referred to you for services. She has a long history of depression & anxiety, and bouts with substance abuse, but she is 4 years clean/sober. She receives TANF benefits & lives in Section 8 housing. She is a single mother of a 5-year old girl, Cherise.

Karen has had very little work experience and not much success in her life; her self-esteem is low. She has a strong desire to change her circumstances but lacks the knowledge, skills and confidence to do so. She fears losing her TANF & housing if she gets a job & fails.

In your initial meeting wither today, she explained her ambivalence about work due to her history of failure. She arrived on time but was quiet & passive. She presents as pleasant, neat & clean, but she is timid & uses self-deprecating language often. You learned that she spends her free time with her daughter. She talked about their time at the library reading together; they’ve gotten through many of the age appropriate books. They spend lots of time at the park. In the winter, they love to play in the snow. She wants to teach Cherise to ski, when she can afford the sport again; she recalls loving it in her youth.

Because of her history of failures & lack of confidence, you know she’ll need help taking the next steps. Karen expressed no job or career goals; she’s open to things “you think I can do.”

1. **Is PE something to consider as a service for her?**

**Give 1-2 Reason you might respond Yes to PE services**

**Give 1-2 Reasons you might respond No to PE services**

**How would you give Karen a chance to give input into the decision about PE services?**

1. **If you were going to pursue a referral for PE services…:** 
   1. **What would you want to highlight about Karen in Jobsville?**
   2. **What WBL experiences might help to evaluate her skills?**
   3. **What assets or strengths of Karen’s would you highlight with business?**