



# Humanizing Research Through Emotions

Rebekah Hornak

“

## Connection

“The energy that exists between  
people when they feel seen,  
heard...”

Brene Brown  
Atlas of the Heart

”

# Addressing the Human Experience



Why is there a gap between research and practitioners in trying to achieve outcomes with students with disabilities?





# Addressing the Human Experience



Places we go when  
**We search for Connection:**

- Belonging
- Fitting In
- Connection
- Disconnection
- Insecurity
- Invisibility
- Loneliness

Brown, 2021



# Addressing the Human Experience



Places we go when  
**Things are uncertain or too much:**

- Stress
- Overwhelm
- Anxiety
- Worry
- Avoidance
- Excitement
- Dread
- Fear
- Vulnerability

Brown, 2021



# Addressing the Human Experience



Places we go when  
**It's Beyond Us:**




- Awe
- Wonder
- Confusion
- Curiosity
- Interest
- Surprise

Brown, 2021



# Example: Resources


**SISEP** | ACTIVE IMPLEMENTATION HUB


NIRN | SISEP   

ABOUT | IMPLEMENTATION PRACTICE | IMPLEMENTATION SUPPORT PRACTITIONER COMPETENCIES | NIRN COMMUNITY AND MICRO-CREDENTIALING | RESOURCES

Active Implementation charts a course for the journey of improving outcomes.

IN COLLABORATION WITH

 **NIRN** | NATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION RESEARCH NETWORK  
AT FRANK PORTER GRAHAM CHILD DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE

 **SISEP**  
State Implementation and Scaling-up of Evidence-based Practices



# Example: Reports

The screenshot shows a presentation slide with a white background and a dark blue border. At the top left is the SISEP logo with the tagline "State Transformation and Setting up of Education Practice". At the top right are social media icons for Twitter and Facebook. The main title is "Introducing Michigan's Teams". Below it is a horizontal line. The text "Executive Sponsors of SISEP Partnership:" is followed by a bulleted list of two names and titles. Below that is the text "State Transformation Assistant Administrators:". At the bottom left is a portrait of Elizabeth Newell Eds, with her name and title below it. To the right of the portrait is a yellow outline of the state of Michigan. At the bottom right is the SISEP logo. On the right side of the slide, there is a photograph of seven people sitting around a wooden table, viewed from above. In the center of the table is a white sign that says "MICHIGAN Department of Education".

**SISEP**  
State Transformation and Setting up of Education Practice

## Introducing Michigan's Teams

*Executive Sponsors of SISEP Partnership:*

- Sheila Alles; Chief Deputy Superintendent
- Kelly S. Carter; Director of the Office of Strategic Planning & Implementation

*State Transformation Assistant Administrators:*

  
Elizabeth Newell Eds, LPC, CTS  
State Transformation  
Assistant Administrator

**SISEP**  
State Transformation and Setting up of Education Practice

**MICHIGAN**  
Department of  
**Education**





# Your Turn

- Take a look at our most recent brief on Engaging Critical Perspectives.
- How could we have made this content more “Humanizing”?
- Reflection on the various emotions:
  - Making a connection - Can you connect to the content? How could you make it better?
  - Too much - This is a lot of information. Could we have simplified it?
  - It is beyond us - Is it readable? Does it make you want to learn more?
- How would you promote this on social media?
  - How would you engage your audience
  - What imagery and emotions would you use?

### Citation and Copyright

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The mission of the National Implementation Research Network (NIRN) is to contribute to the best practices and science of implementation, organization change, and system reinvention to improve outcomes across the spectrum of human services.





FRANK PORTER GRAHAM  
CHILD DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE

Advancing knowledge to  
transform children's lives