Role Play Guidelines

- The role play is intended to give you an opportunity to practice delivering the HTC session to couples following the CHTC protocol, utilizing couples communication skills.

- The provider should use the provider card for guidance and to ensure that they have covered the key points when conducting the CHTC role play.

- Each member of the couple is asked to play a reasonable and cooperative partner in a supportive couple. Stay in your role and at the same time try to be encouraging and supportive of the provider.

- When asked a question by the provider, please respond in a forthcoming and brief manner.

- You should pay attention to:
  - How does it feel to be in a couple receiving CHTC services?
  - What questions were helpful or thought-provoking?
  - What questions created tension for you and your partner or made you uncomfortable?
  - Were your issues and concerns as a couple addressed
  - What skills the provider was using?

- Remember that this is a learning process for the provider. The provider will be looking down to make sure he or she is covering each of the key messages in the CHTC protocol. The provider may also need to pause and think about what to ask next, how to respond, or what skills he or she needs to use.

- The provider may also repeat a question or message because this is new.

- If your role play finishes before time is called, spend a few moments quietly providing feedback to the provider, telling him or her something you thought was done really well and something you thought he or she could do more of. Provide constructive comments.

- There will also be an observer in each group. The observer should take notes on how well the provider followed the protocol and communicated with the couple, as well as note areas for improvement.

- When giving feedback, be sure to be specific and provide examples of what was done well or what could be improved. Do not just simply say, “You did a good job.” Instead state WHY the provider did a good job and what specifically was done well.