**M1-A. Icebreaker: How much do you know about Therapeutic Communities?**

Ask the whole student cohort to spread out in a line across the room. Tell them that one end of the line represents a high level of knowledge about therapeutic communities (TCs), whilst the other end of the line represents a low level. (With student cohorts where the overall level of knowledge is generally low, the trainer(s) may need to join the line also). Students should now check with the other students on either side of them and adjust their position on the line accordingly.

Measures would include having worked in a TC, having graduated from a TC, having visited a TC, having read about TCs etc. The line should keep on adjusting until there is an agreed continuum running from little TC knowledge to extensive TC knowledge.

At this point the trainer(s) should ask the high knowledge end of the line, to snake the line back towards the low level. You should end up with two equal lines facing each other and with the highest knowledge student standing opposite the least knowledgeable.

Ask the high knowledge line one by one to tell their opposite number one thing they know about the TC approach to addiction.

*At this point the trainers can begin to allocate students to appropriate positions in the structure according to their knowledge level (see: Section 3: Training Curriculum – Introduction)*