



## **SPECTRM: Sensitizing Providers to the Effects of Incarceration on Treatment**

NYS Social Work & LMHC CE Contact Hours: 2.0

CASAC Renewal Credit Hours: 2.0

This training explores the culture of incarceration and how it can impact a client's ability to adjust to a community behavioral health setting. It is designed to help sensitize providers to the reentry experience and provide strategies to engage and support clients through this vulnerable time. First the training will outline the informal and formal codes of conduct imposed upon incarcerated people, helping providers to understand the rules of behavior imposed by other inmates (don't snitch, never show weakness, trust no one, mind your own business, etc.) and those imposed by the correctional facility. The training will then help providers understand the adaptive behaviors that inmates develop to survive under these rules and in this setting. This will be compared and contrasted with the vastly different behaviors expected in community behavioral settings (share your feelings, collaborate with others, turn to staff for help) and the difficult transition that inmates must make to shift their survival behavior upon reentry into the community. The training then provides participants with strategies for engaging individuals upon reentry. The trainer will underscore the importance of respect and empathy for the client's past experiences, and helping the client to share some of their "war stories". The training also outlines some of the evidence-based practices that can help clients with mental illness as they reenter the community.

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