



Greater New Haven TRN Presents at New Haven Police Roll Call Meetings

Six members of the Greater New Haven Trauma Recovery Network (TRN) presented this spring to hundreds of New Haven police officers, at their daily roll call meetings, prior to starting their patrol shifts.

The Greater New Haven TRN has been in operation for two years. It receives referrals directly from the New Haven Police Department to work with crime victims. Officer Jillian Knox is the Victim's Advocate for the New Haven Police Department. She works closely with the Greater New Haven TRN to refer victims for pro bono EMDR therapy sessions offered by the volunteers. "Officer Knox is dedicated to providing support to crime victims and has been a strong advocate for EMDR therapy services." said the TRN's Coordinator, Donald F. deGraffenreid.

Six members of the Greater New Haven TRN; Aili Arisco, Kathleen Walsh, Lynn Persson, Robin Katzman, Sarah Finke and Donald F. deGraffenreid formed into teams and presented a total of six times to the patrol officers at their daily briefing meeting, which are called roll call or "line ups". These meetings are referred to as line ups, as there are lines of blue tape on the floor and officers are asked to "line up" with their feet on the tape during the daily briefings. At each meeting, there was an average of fifty officers in attendance.

"It was great to meet with so many officers, face to face in these meetings." said the TRN's EMDRIA Approved Consultant, Lynn Persson. "We really want them to be informed about EMDR therapy, the work of the Greater New Haven Trauma Recovery Network and how to identify when to refer a crime victim for pro bono EMDR therapy."

Greater New Haven TRN volunteer, Aili Arisco, made laminated cards that would fit in the wallet of the patrol officers. These cards briefly describe the services of the TRN and listed Officers Knox as the contact person to make a referral. "I wanted them to have something that would provide basic information when they were ready to make a referral. The laminated wallet sized cards were easy to produce and fit easily in their wallets" said Arisco.

Individuals referred for pro bono treatment are victims of major crime and many of them are survivors of attempted homicide. The TRN offers up to ten pro bono EMDR therapy sessions each. The clinicians use EMD, Recent Event Protocol and full Eight Phase processing to help clients recover from the trauma of being the victim of a crime.

"It was great to meet so many patrol officers at the New Haven police station and have the opportunity to make a personal connection with them." deGraffenreid stated. "We appreciate the continued support of Officer Knox, Chief Anthony Campbell and New Haven Mayor Toni Harp."

Donald F. deGraffenreid is also the Director of Program and Community Outreach at Trauma Recovery/HAP and oversees the TRN at a national level. Individuals who are interested in the model or work of the Greater New Haven Trauma Recovery Network can reach deGraffenreid by email at ddegraff@emdrhap.org, by phone at the Trauma Recovery/HAP office (203)288-4450 or by cell at (203)675-3179.

-Donald F. deGraffenreid