



Las Vegas: Five Days of Training & Intervention

Our organization extends its gratitude and recognition to all who participated in the five days of training and intervention that took place during March in Las Vegas, Nevada. We deeply appreciate the healing energy and volunteer spirit that helped to provide comprehensive support to the Las Vegas community, in response to their mass casualty event. The Trauma Recovery EMDR Humanitarian Assistance Programs work in Las Vegas had three components:

1. Part I EMDR Therapy Training
2. Specialty Training
3. Trauma Recovery Network (TRN) interventions at University Hospital

Thirty participants were trained in Part I EMDR Therapy at the Community Counseling Center. Our volunteer faculty composed of Ted Olejnik, Alexis Polles, Donald deGraffenried and Cynthia Willemsen, delivered the training and supported logistics. They responded very actively to help in the practicums, especially with participants who had clients associated with the

mass casualty incident at Mandalay Bay in October 2017. That violence resulted in the death of 58 people and over 851 injured. This training was provided at a reduced fee, in support of the Las Vegas community, with supplemental funds from the Francine Shapiro Fund.

Arron Stagg of the University Employee Assistance Program hosted a one day Specialty Training, held at University Hospital. Donald deGraffenried instructed participants in the specialty-training course, "Using the EMDR Recent Event Protocol with Homicide Survivors and Victims of Other Violent Crimes". Fifty people attended the training, which included Recent Event Protocol, EMDR therapy application and special affect management tools to use with victims of community violence.

The team returned to University Hospital the next day to support the newly organized Southern Nevada Trauma Recovery Network (TRN). They worked with twelve of the hospital's first responders, affected by the Mandalay Bay event. Elaine Nelson, Southern Nevada TRN Coordinator and Jeanne Griffin, the TRN EMDRIA Approved Consultant provided outstanding clinical leadership. This was their first intervention as a TRN and it was an exceptional day.

We see combining trainings with the supported launching of a local Trauma Recovery Network as an emerging model. It expedites what Malcolm Gladwell would call the "Tipping Point" by creating clinician critical mass, and can be the heart of how we "pay it forward". Thank you to all those who worked together to make this five day training and intervention happen for the Las Vegas community.

You can help this work continue in communities in the US and around the world impacted by mass causality events. Please consider donating to the Francine Shapiro Fund for Disaster Preparedness and Recovery today at: support.emdrhap.org.

Donald F. deGraffenried