

## Trauma Recovery HAP Centers of Excellence: An innovative Approach To Expanding Capacity

Of particular note is our latest initiative to create Centers of Excellence at multiple key nonprofits around the country.

Our first Center is with the Women's Consortium in Hamden, CT, which has served as a "beacon of hope" for the continued advancement of EMDR therapy into the world of non-profit agencies. Our ongoing collaboration with the Women's Consortium, and other nonprofits in the future, will guarantee continued EMDR professional training in places where the need is most acute and provide trauma services in communities, where many are impacted by community violence.



*The CT Women's Consortium Staff*

A Center of Excellence is a community agency recognized and selected by Trauma Recovery/HAP, to provide a regular and consistent Basic Training Program in EMDR therapy, as well as specialty trainings to fit local community needs. Much like the Trauma Recovery/HAP mission itself, these agencies are dedicated to working with underserved populations, and demonstrate a passion for the advancement of EMDR therapy in their region.

The selected agencies will serve as a "beacon of training" for their region and will sponsor trainings, held throughout the year, at the agency site. Working in collaboration with the Trauma Recovery/HAP office, an annual training schedule will be established. Importantly, specialty trainings can be implemented in coordination with the Trauma Recovery/HAP office that

addresses the unique needs of the clients that the agency serves.

We anticipate that Centers of Excellence will have one or more EMDR therapy trained clinicians working within the agency who will promote new trainings in conjunction with the agency administrative staff. The Trauma Recovery/HAP Clinical Director, Karl Speirs, Program and Community Development Director, Donald F. deGraffentried and other key staff will play an active part in supporting and expanding the training events.

The Centers of Excellence, working closely with Trauma Recovery/HAP, will provide comprehensive and ongoing training, designed to help clinicians work with underserved populations. This will include individuals with complex trauma, low-income clients, victims of community disasters, first responders and others who could benefit from timely EMDR therapy services, using the Recent Event Protocol and EMD where appropriate.

This program has been designed to make EMDR therapy available to community residents being served by agencies, to be timely in response to their needs and to reduce suffering, especially in addressing community and interpersonal violence and its legacy of suffering.

As we look ahead at the work of 2017, we continue to be inspired by the commitment and passion of our volunteer faculty. Our trainers are committed and dedicated to the success of EMDR therapy and the need for more EMDR trained clinicians.

We wish to congratulate this group of Trainer candidates for their successful completion of Part 1 and Part 2 training this year and wish them luck in their continued work towards becoming Trauma Recovery/HAP Trainers: Bernadette Talia of El Cajon, CA, Cheryl Kenn of New Haven, CT, Claire Mauer of Maitland, FL, Debra Silveria of Huntington Beach, CA, Judy Cabeceiras of Collinsville, CT, Leslie brown of Highland, UT, Alexis Polles of Purvis, MS, Denise Gelinas of Northampton, MA, Ted Olejnik of Easthampton, MA, and Julie Miller of Tucson, AZ.

Looking ahead, we are excited by the opportunities before us as we to continue to expand high-level, EMDR capacity through new and traditional means.