

Renee Dieschbourg

Riverview Center, Inc.

Position: Clinical Director

Time at Agency: 8 years, 4 months

Commitment to advocacy on behalf of those affected by domestic violence:

Renee is a dedicated victim services professional whose passion is deeply rooted in feminist values. She focuses on a therapeutic approach to empower survivors to thrive beyond their trauma. Renee collaborates with legal and crisis services advocates to provide comprehensive support, believing that empowerment helps survivors find the strength to overcome their experiences. She also volunteers to represent the agency and survivors in the community, advocating for awareness about domestic violence, its root causes, and the collective responsibility to create a violence-free world.

Personal qualities that reflect an ongoing commitment to ethical, peaceful, and respectful work with others:

Renee exemplifies integrity, respect, and a deep appreciation for everyone's humanity. She engages with survivors and professionals in a non-judgmental manner, while fiercely advocating for trauma-informed practices to prevent further harm to survivors. Committed to personal development, Renee continually seeks to understand the impact of violence and new ways to empower healing. She often leads the agency's training committee, bringing in experts to enhance their support for survivors and improve collaboration with other professionals.

Ways in which they still instill a spirit of advocacy in others:
Renee is a true role model in the domestic Violence (DV) field, excelling in brainstorming and problem-solving with other professionals. She not only seeks solutions but also helps others grow in their confidence. Renee skillfully centers survivors while maintaining appropriate boundaries, bringing calm confidence to all interactions. She exemplifies how to be both a dedicated professional and a compassionate person, inspiring others to be vocal and active advocates for survivors.

Experience that demonstrates a broad commitment to social justice:
Renee made a strong impression during a public meeting years ago, where she supported a survivor who had been harassed and harmed by a powerful community member. She conveyed the seriousness of the situation and affirmed the agency's belief in the survivor. Renee continues to actively participate in community events focused on equity, inclusion, and the right to live free from violence, consistently demonstrating her commitment to these values.

Creativity in building the domestic violence movement within a social change framework:
Renee consistently connects broader societal issues to the challenges faced by individual survivors and helps them overcome these obstacles. She is becoming a certified yoga instructor to help survivors address the physical impacts of abuse and plans to offer group sessions to empower them to reclaim their space and voice. Renee's innovative group support methods emphasize the importance of creating safe, validating, and trauma-informed environments for survivors to express their authentic selves.