2015 / Treatment Innovations / Lisa Najavits, PhD

**Training on *Trauma Informed Care***

This training can be done as a half day or full day, or adjusted to other lengths as needed.

**Possible titles (choose one):**

Trauma-informed care

The link between trauma and substance abuse\*

Listening to themes: Trauma-informed care

*\*Note*: you can replace the term “substance abuse” with “addiction” if desired. Addiction is a broader term that also encompasses behavioral addictions such as gambling.

**Trainer:** certified to provide this training by Lisa Najavits, the developer of *Seeking Safety*. To see or verify our list of certified trainers, please see www.treatment-innovations.org / About us / Team.Lisa supervises each trainer on each training, including preparation and materials. Slides, videos, and content are identical to those Lisa uses the trainer audiotapes all trainings (including the one at your site, if you allow it) so they can be reviewed for quality.

**Intended audience:** A broad range of staff from substance abuse, mental health, medical, and other programs, including those who directly treat clients, but can also include other staff (e.g., administrators, mental health aides, counselors, nurses, advocates, etc.) No prior training nor any particular professional degree is required.

**Summary:** This presentation explores general principles of treating traumatized clients in a variety of contexts (e.g., substance abuse, mental health, medical, etc). Basic information on trauma, posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and co-occurring disorders will be provided, such as definitions, rates, and clinical presentation. In addition key themes relevant for this population will be discussed, including dissociation, self-injury, reenactments, and stage-based models of treatment, emotional responses by staff, staff self-care, and diversity issues. Trauma-informed versus trauma-specific treatment will also be highlighted, with the idea that all staff can become trauma-informed, and a smaller number may be providing actual trauma counseling. The workshop will be highly clinically-oriented and offer opportunity to role-play client scenarios. Real-world challenges are emphasized, including power struggles, threatened harm self or others, reenactment of classic trauma roles, etc. Assessment and resources will also be provided.

**Educational objectives/outcomes:**

* + To learn basic information on trauma and PTSD (definitions, rates, and clinical presentation)
  + To develop increased compassion for how trauma affects recovery
  + To discuss typical dilemmas that may arise in various treatment settings (e.g., boundary issues, intense emotions, triggering, self-injury, power struggles, trauma reenactments)
  + To learn specific strategies and principles for responding to challenges with this population ranging from formal therapy to interventions that any staff can do even if not doing formal counseling

**Schedule for a 1-day training (can be adjusted for other lengths)**

The typical 1 day training is 9a-4p but you can choose any length you prefer. There will be a 15 minute break in the a.m. and p.m. as well.

1. Trauma in context 9a-10a
2. Impact of trauma, rates, clinical challenges, gender differences
3. Clinical issues (dissociation, self-injury, impulsive behavior, reenactment of trauma roles, behavioral problems including addictions, family context)
4. What Helps? 10a – 12p (with a 15 minute break around 10:30a)
5. Phases of recovery
6. Principles of trauma–informed care and environments
7. Principles of trauma-informed counseling models (present- versus past-focused, other approaches); evidence base
8. Resources

Lunch 12-1p

1. Video on trauma-related symptoms and discussion 1p-145p
2. Group toolkit exercise on creating trauma-informed care in your setting 1:45p-2:30p

Mid-afternoon break 2:30p-2:45p

1. Clinician aspects: emotional responses, self-care, triggering, Professional Quality of Life Scale 2:45p-3:15p
2. Group brainstorming of “tough cases” – working empathetically with challenging situations from a trauma-informed care perspective 3:15p-4p

**References:**

Briere, J. N., & Scott, C. (2012). *Principles of Trauma Therapy: A Guide to Symptoms, Evaluation, and Treatment (2nd edition)*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.

Felitti, V. J., Anda, R. F., Nordenberg, D., Williamson, D. F., Spitz, A. M., Edwards, V., . . . Marks, J. S. (1998). Relationship of childhood abuse and household dysfunction to many of the leading causes of death in adults. The Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) Study. *Am J Prev Med, 14*(4), 245-258.

Herman, J. L. (1992). *Trauma and Recovery*. New York: Basic Books.

Najavits, L. M. (2002). *Seeking Safety: A Treatment Manual for PTSD and Substance Abuse*. New York: Guilford Press.

Najavits, L. M., & Hien, D. A. (2013). Helping vulnerable populations: A comprehensive review of the treatment outcome literature on substance use disorder and PTSD *Journal of Clinical Psychology, 69*, 433-480.

Najavits, L. M. (2015). Trauma and substance abuse: A clinician's guide to treatment. In M. Cloitre & U. Schynder (Eds.), *Evidence-based treatments for trauma-related disorders*: Springer-Verlag.

Ouimette, P., & Read, J. P. (Eds.). (2014). *Handbook of Trauma, PTSD and Substance Use Disorder Comorbidity*. Washington, DC: American Psychological Association Press.

Pearlman, L. A., & Saakvitne, K. W. (1995). *Trauma and the Therapist: Countertransference and Vicarious Traumatization in Psychotherapy with Incest Survivors*. New York: WW Norton.

Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) (2014). TIP: Trauma-Informed Care in Behavioral Health Services *Treatment Improvement Protocol (TIP) Series*. Washington, DC: Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), Department of Health and Human Services. **Note: this can be freely downloaded from below. It is highly recommended to also order several hard-copy versions, which are also free, for use during the training.**

http://store.samhsa.gov/product/TIP-57-Trauma-Informed-Care-in-Behavioral-Health-Services/SMA14-4816

van der Kolk, B. A., McFarlane, A. C., & Weisaeth, L. (1996). *Traumatic Stress: The Effects of Overwhelming Experience on Mind, Body, and Society*. New York: The Guilford Press.

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