Welcome!

PLEASE BE PATIENT WITH ME
- We live in troubled times
- I am going to be very provocative
- I am going to be highly irreverent
- This is a webinar for professionals only
- I come in peace and believe in human dignity
- I mean no harm
- Please take everything I say in the spirit in which it is intended

TAKE HOME MESSAGES
- What you do matters
- What you do works
- Follow the research
- Beware of false advertising
- Always keep the big picture in mind

GRATITUDE
Getting the “Informed” in Trauma-Informed Care right

**IMPACT**

Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) Study

**STORY OF THE ACE STUDY**

“The most important study you never heard of.”

—Jane Stevens, Acesconnection.com

- Very large sample
  - 17,000 patients at Kaiser Permanente HMO
- Average age 57
- High functioning
  - All insured
  - Middle and upper middle class
  - 74% attended college

**ACE CATEGORIES**

**ABUSE AND NEGLECT**

- Emotional abuse
- Physical abuse
- Sexual abuse
- Emotional neglect
- Physical neglect

**HOUSEHOLD DYSFUNCTION**

- Mother Treated Violently
- Household Substance Abuse
- Household Mental Illness
- Parental Separation or Divorce
- Incarcerated Household Member

**Findings: High Prevalence**

64% at least 1 ACE
12% 4+ ACEs
25% households with substance abuse
25% physical abuse

**FINDINGS: HIGH ASSOCIATION TO NEGATIVE HEALTH OUTCOMES**

- 6x more likely to commit suicide
- 7x more likely to be alcoholic
- 7x more like to have sex by 15
- 46x more like to use injected drugs

**Findings: High Association to Negative Health Outcomes**

Stunning correlations
Linear dose-response relationship

**FINDINGS: HIGH ASSOCIATION TO NEGATIVE HEALTH OUTCOMES**

- Attempted Suicide
- Alcoholism
- Depression

**FINDINGS: HIGH ASSOCIATION TO NEGATIVE HEALTH OUTCOMES**

4+ vs. 0 ACEs

- 36.1
- 26
- 15.9
- 9.5
- 12.5

**Findings: High Prevalence**

- Number of ACEs
- Percentage

Anda et al., 2006

Feldt et al., 2018

Stunning correlations
Linear dose-response relationship

**FINDINGS: HIGH ASSOCIATION TO NEGATIVE HEALTH OUTCOMES**

- Attempted Suicide
- Alcoholism

Anda et al., 2006

Feldt et al., 2018
FINDINGS: HIGH ASSOCIATION TO NEGATIVE HEALTH OUTCOMES

- Negative impacts BEYOND mental health
- Repeated stress has lifelong impact
- Physiological impact on cellular level

Number of ACEs

Heart disease
Lung disease
Obesity

Felitti et al., 1998

FINDINGS: HIGH ASSOCIATION TO NEGATIVE HEALTH OUTCOMES

4+ vs. 0 ACEs
2x more likely to have cancer
2x more likely to have heart disease
> 2x more likely to be obese

Number of ACEs

Heart disease
Lung disease
Obesity

Felitti et al., 1998

ORIGINAL STUDY VS. INCARCERATED

Percentage

Number of ACEs

Juvenile Justice, Females
Kaiser
Incarcerated Males

Anda et al., 2006
Ryan, Lester, Perrin, & Fige, 2013
Baglietto et al., 2014

ORIGINAL STUDY VS. MALE SEX OFFENDERS

Percentage

Number of ACEs

Male Sex Offenders
Kaiser

Levenson, Bills & Prescott, 2014

Trauma (Ford et al., 2012)

- Approximately 90% of youth in juvenile detention facilities reported a history of exposure to at least one potentially traumatic event in two independent surveys of representative samples
  - E.g., being threatened with a weapon (58%), traumatic loss (49%), and physical assault (35%)

Trauma (Ford et al., 2012)

- Two complex trauma sub-groups:
  - 20% of the reported some combination of sexual or physical abuse or family violence
  - 15% emotional abuse and family violence but not physical or sexual abuse
- The resultant combined prevalence estimate of 35% for complex trauma history is about three times higher than the 10-13% estimates of poly-victimization from epidemiological study of children and adolescents
Getting the “Informed” in Trauma-Informed Care right  

**Trauma** (Ford et al., 2012)

- Sexual offending in adolescence has been linked with complex trauma exposure in several studies. Interviews with the clinicians treating 40 JSOs found that 95% of these youths had a documented history of at least one past traumatic event, and 63% were determined to have met diagnostic criteria for PTSD.
- Notably, clinicians viewed the trigger(s) for sex offending as related to a prior trauma in 85% of the youth, including intense trauma-associated fear for 37.5% of the youth, helplessness for 55%, and posttraumatic horror for 20%.
- 1 in 7 JSOs were found to meet criteria for a dissociative disorder, with physical abuse associated with elevated levels of dissociative symptoms.

**ACE SCORE 4+ DJJ JSO Boys**  
Levenson, Baglivio, Wolff, Epps, Royale, Gomez & Kaplan (2017, Advances in SW)  
n = 6,549 JSO - Florida DJJ

**ACE SCORE 4+ DJJ JSO Girls**  
Levenson, Baglivio, Wolff, Epps, Royale, Gomez & Kaplan (2017, Advances in SW)  
n = 6,549 JSO – FL DJJ

**EXPOSURE TO EACH ACE BY GENDER**  
A Study of 64,339 DJJ Youth: Prevalence of ACE indicators by Gender

**CHRONICITY, ACCUMULATION & MULTIPLICITY**  
Complex Trauma

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David S. Prescott, LICSW
PROFOUND IMPACTS ON MEDICAL, BEHAVIORAL HEALTH, AND PSYCHOSOCIAL ADULT OUTCOMES

ACES can have lasting effects on:
- Health: obesity, diabetes, depression, suicide attempts, HIV, heart disease, cancer, stroke, COPD, broken bones
- Behaviors: smoking, alcoholism, drug use
- Life Potential (graduation rates, academic achievement, first time from work)

How does early adversity translate into sexual assault?*
- Emotional congruence with children – less threatening
- Early conditioning experiences for maladaptive coping
- Role modeling of poor boundaries
- Learned behavior about misusing power, differential to get what you want
- Sexualized coping

If child abuse ended today...

If child abuse ended today, in 10 years the jails would be empty and the DSM would be a pamphlet.

WHAT IS TRAUMA-INFORMED CARE?
- Services and service settings that recognize the pervasive impact of trauma
- Services that heal the impact of trauma, rather than make it worse (re-traumatization)
- Systemwide change – paradigm shift
- What happened to you?
- NOT What’s wrong with you?

BE TRAUMA-INFORMED
And I mean really trauma-informed

David S. Prescott, LICSW
WHAT IS TRAUMA?

- PTSD
- Complex PTSD
- DESNOS
- Complex trauma
- Developmental Trauma Disorder

WHAT IS TRAUMA?

Trauma is the desperate hope that the past was somehow different.

~ Jan Hindman

WHAT IS TRAUMA?

APA:

Trauma is an emotional response to a terrible event like an accident, rape or natural disaster. Immediately after the event, shock and denial are typical. Longer term reactions include unpredictable emotions, flashbacks, strained relationships and even physical symptoms like headaches or nausea. While these feelings are normal, some people have difficulty moving on with their lives. Psychologists can help these individuals find constructive ways of managing their emotions.

ABSENCE OF CURIOSITY

Just notice
See what happens next

- Not just mindful...
- Investigating each experience
**TRAUMA**

- Relational issues
- Somatic challenges

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**WHAT IS TRAUMA?**

The goal of (trauma) treatment is to help people live in the present, without feeling or behaving according to irrelevant demands belonging to the past.

~ Bessel van der Kolk

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**CASE EXAMPLE**

- EBT roll-out
- JCCO directed client into treatment
- Client reluctant to attend
- Harm

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**BENISH, IMEL, & WAMPOLD, 2008**

- Treatment for PTSD is effective
- “Bona fide psychotherapies produce equivalent benefits for patients with PTSD”
- Much controversy

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**SEPTEMBER 11**

- Critical Incident Stress Debriefing
- Some treatments cause harm

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**ULTIMATELY**

No intervention that takes power away from the survivor can possibly foster her recovery, no matter how much it appears to be in (his or) her immediate best interest.

~ Judith Herman, M.D.

Reframe: Interventions that empower survivors foster recovery
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**POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER**

- Traumatic event including
  - Actual or threat of death or serious injury
  - Threat to physical integrity
  - Response of intense fear, helplessness, horror
- Persistent re-experiencing of events
- Persistent avoidance of associated stimuli & numbing of responsiveness
- Persistent symptoms of increased arousal
- Duration >1 month, significant disturbance in functioning

**POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER**

- Re-experiencing distress
  - Recollections, images, thoughts, perceptions
  - Dreams
  - Flashbacks, illusions, hallucinations
- Avoidance of related stimuli
  - Thoughts, feelings, conversations
  - Activities, places or people

**POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER**

- Events
  - Military combat
  - Violent personal assault (physical, sexual, mugging)
  - Kidnapping, terrorism, torture, incarceration, disasters, auto accidents, terminal diagnosis
  - Witnessing fatal accident, body parts
- Typically worse when event is of human design
- Typically worse when stressor is repeated, chronic

**POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER**

- Numbing of general responsiveness
  - Inability to recall important aspects of event
  - Diminished interest/participation in activities
  - Detachment/estrangement from others
  - Restricted range of emotions (e.g., love)
  - Sense of foreshortened future
- Arousal symptoms
  - Insomnia, anger, hypervigilance, difficulty concentrating, exaggerated startle response

**IMPORTANT**

- Not all trauma results in PTSD
- Trauma can have a devastating effect on life outside of PTSD
### To this Point...

- **DO** understand that trauma plays a significant role in the background of offensive behavior.
- **DON'T** consider it an excuse for offending.
- **DO** consider trauma a major treatment need.
- **DON'T** expect that everyone needs the same kind of trauma treatment.
- **DO** adhere to RNR principles

### RECOMMENDATIONS

- Use Motivational Approaches
  - MI, Feedback-Informed Treatment
- Raise Kids so that they can someday raise kids
- Understand that the most obnoxious kids still have strengths, hopes, and aspirations that can be built on in treatment.

### TREATMENT

- Less about “deviance”
- Less about punishment
- More about realistic, common life goals
- More about self-management
- More family involvement
- End result = a balanced and self-determined lifestyle

### PREPARE MORE THAN YOU THINK YOU SHOULD

### SPECIFIC STEPS

1. Get into the mindset that you are creating new mindsets
2. 10,000 foot rule
3. Relax your body
4. Lower your shoulders
5. Slow your breathing
6. Reject all distractions
7. Spend 1st 20% of every interaction engaging
8. It’s hard to argue with a relaxed person
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TO BE CONTINUED...

...by you