

Trauma Informed Hampshire County: A network responding to adverse childhood experiences by building resilience

Minutes

Thursday, June 10, 2021

1:00-2:30 p.m. on Zoom

Item	Next Steps
<p><i>Present: Ruth Ever, TIHC Staff/consultant; Heather Warner, SPIFFY/CES; Laurie Loisel, Naomi Bledsoe and Liz Mulcahey, Northwestern DA's Office; Jenifer Urff, Massachusetts Association for Mental Health; Geoff Naunheim, United Way of Hampshire County; Heather Craig, Community Activist; Melinda Calianos, MTCP; Steve Brown, Trauma Institute; Lisa Goldsmith, SPIFFY Coordinator; Chase Giroux and Ariane Krumholz, Clinical and Support Options; Kara McElhone, Children's Advocacy Center; Kelly Broadway, CCRT & CSO; Rosie McMahan, Optimistic Options; Jessica, Yanni Olivencia, MAMH; Brianna Owen, Friends of Children; Kris Hoag, Belchertown Coalition.</i></p> <p>Ice Breaker today: Improv game--<i>What are you doing?</i></p>	<p>➤ Be connected to each other as we do this work</p>
<p>Presentation by Rosie McMahan on her new book, <i>Fortunate Daughter</i>.</p>	
<p>Rosie spoke about her decision to write this book and talk about her own trauma, after years of doing this work but not speaking about her personal experience with it. This book doesn't just focus on the trauma, but on our ability to heal and reconcile. She is interested in what else we can do to make it more possible or likely that the abuser can heal too. No one is disposable, and breaking the stigma and not vilifying anyone is a critical piece of this. Rosie read some excerpts from her book. It can be purchased at your local independent bookstore!</p>	
<p>Presentation by Monica Moran on the new <i>Intimate Partner Violence Helpline</i>.</p>	<p>➤ TIHC members should be familiar and comfortable with the helpline model and goals, and invite Monica to present to staff or other relevant groups to help increase awareness and understanding of what it is and who it can help and be able to refer our own clients. (see attached fliers)</p>
<p>Monica works at the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission and spearheaded this effort, which is the first of its kind in the state and nationally. The pandemic shutdown brought the issue of DV even more to forefront, especially the isolation and how many have been trapped at home. Frustrated with why we keep asking the victims to come up with solutions and offering almost no alternatives to incarceration especially for young teens and men who see themselves in the abuser role but don't have anywhere to turn for help, Monica created this helpline with funds from the COVID pandemic. It is based on a model of compassion and accountability. There is no record keeping, or follow up and it is not connected to</p>	

<p>the inceral system. 10 to 10 signifies the hours of operation: 10 am to 10 pm. It's for people who do or are or might use harm on another person, or people who worry or are seeing it in another person, including counselors and helping professionals, and want some help in addressing it. The hotline responders are not counselors, although they go through extensive training to de-escalate in the moment, help someone not abuse, figure out the next steps. It started out here, but has quickly become statewide.</p>	
<p>Preparing for Strategic Planning Process John Engel is going to help facilitate this process for us over the summer and fall. Everyone is welcome to participate.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Ruth is setting up dates when he can meet with us
<p>The Northampton Prevention Coalition is spending down its no-cost extension DFC grant and is purchasing films and books that relate to being trauma informed, anti-racism, restorative justice and related work. Ideas that came up here, or were mentioned as being purchased already: Rewind; Paper Tigers, Wisdom of Trauma series (Gabor Mate); a recent Gazette op-ed by Tolly Jones on how racism is trauma and another by a man who had been abused by Catholic priest and is now professor. CSO has a resource list that we can also use and share.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ CSO staff could share resource list with Ruth. ➤ Films and other materials will be categorized and available for TIHC members to use. ➤ Plan for some kind of event like a showing of film, Wisdom of Trauma in fall to raise visibility of TIHC
<p>No other full meetings are planned for summer. If you are interested in being involved with the planning process for strategic planning please reach out to Ruth, HampshireTIHC@gmail.com</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Full Network meetings are monthly on the second Thursday from 1-2:30 pm. However, we will take a break in July and possibly August, and focus on strategic planning work.