Part of our "Essentials" series of continuing professional development events



Survivors of Torture in Mental Health Settings

Good Practice for Engaging With and Assessing Survivors 'Essentials' - building blocks for the development of healthcare professionals

Gill Newman, Psychological Therapist and Trainer for Yorkshire & Humberside, and **Lynn Hiltz**, Training and Capacity Building Co-ordinator Freedom from Torture

Wednesday 19 September 2012

12.30pm Registration and buffet lunch; 1.00pm Welcome and Introduction; 4.15pm Close Weetwood Hall Conference Centre, Otley Road, Leeds LS16 5PS

Torture is a practice used to intimidate, repress and dehumanise. Its survivors sustain serious injuries and the psychological impact is long-lasting. Having escaped torture and persecution, the majority of the survivors arrive in the UK as asylum seekers. Their distress is compounded by the complex and bureaucratic asylum system in which their experiences can appear to be diminished and discounted and the resulting uncertainty of their present and future.

The purpose of this seminar is to raise your awareness of the issues facing asylum seekers and refugees who have survived torture and how, as mental health professionals, we can work toward overcoming challenges in order to meet their complex emotional health needs. We will look at the impact that pre-flight experiences and their life in exile can have on the mental health of survivors of torture, including the impact of torture and organised violence and going through the asylum process. We will share what we have learned through our 25 years experience of carrying out holistic rehabilitation with survivors of torture and provide guidance on good practice in therapeutic work with survivors.

After you have attended this seminar, you will be able to:

- explain the impact of pre-flight experiences on mental health and how this might be exacerbated by life in exile
- articulate important principles and good practice for engagement with and holistic assessment of survivors of torture

About our speakers: Gill Newman is a qualified and experienced psychotherapist, supervisor and manager as well as being a registered qualified social worker. She has worked in a range of statutory and voluntary mental health services in Leeds for over 25 years. Following the governments dispersal policy in 2000, Gill gained extensive experience of therapeutically with asylum seekers and refugees, many of whom are survivors of torture. Lynn Hiltz is responsible for designing and delivering bespoke training to organisations that provide health and care services to survivors of torture. She has provided training to a wide range of professionals from the health and social care sectors in the UK for over ten years and is a Master of Social Work (MSW) and has a BA in psychology.

Study methods: This will be an interactive session where delegates will be asked to participate in discussions and exercises throughout.

Who should attend? This course is suitable for all mental health professionals.

Course fees: £95. All learning materials, lunch and refreshments are included.

Reservations: Please complete the reservation form overleaf and either post to: Events Administrator, Andrew Sims Centre, The Mount, 44 Hyde Terrace, Leeds LS2 9LN or fax to: 0113 305 5632. If you are paying by debit or credit card, why not BOOK ONLINE?





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