



DAY THREE– WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29, 2022– 10:00 AM

Trauma-Informed Response in Correctional Settings

Session Description:

Trauma histories do not just disappear when someone enters a corrections facility; rather they are exacerbated due to traditional ways of ensuring care, custody, and control. This session will explore what it means to be trauma-informed in corrections. The presenter will explain the ways confinement settings are traumatizing and triggering to trauma survivors, and ways to become more trauma-informed. This approach requires staff to understand the impact of trauma, what is meant by vicarious trauma, and the importance of self-care – both for themselves and the people in custody. The session will also highlight the power of art and mindfulness workshops to support survivors in their healing.

Bio:

Tara Graham (she/her/hers), MPH, is JDI's National Program Director, based in its Washington, D.C. office. She provides training and technical assistance to corrections agencies on preventing and responding to sexual abuse in detention. She has been working on the development and implementation of the Prison Rape Elimination Act standards for more 15 years, including at the National PREA Resource Center. Her research experience includes interviewing homeless and runaway youth and incarcerated women about issues including drug use, sexual behaviors, and experience with physical and sexual violence. Previously, Tara served as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Tanzania working on HIV/AIDS prevention with an emphasis on women and youth.