

Trauma Response and the Criminal Justice System: A Virtual Summit on Knowledge, Healing, and Resilience

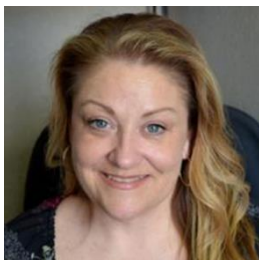
SAMHSA Gains “How Being Trauma-Informed Improves the Criminal Justice System Responses”

Trauma-informed care is an approach used to engage people with histories of trauma. It recognizes the presence of trauma symptoms and acknowledges the role that trauma can play in people’s lives. Trauma-informed criminal justice responses can help to avoid re-traumatizing individuals. This increases safety for all, decreases the chance of an individual returning to criminal behavior, and supports the recovery of justice-involved women and men with serious mental illness. Partnerships across systems can also help link individuals to trauma-informed services and treatment.

The GAINS Center has developed training for criminal justice professionals to raise awareness about trauma and its effects. “How Being Trauma-Informed Improves Criminal Justice System Responses” is a training for criminal justice professionals to:

- Increase understanding and awareness of the impact of trauma
- Develop trauma-informed responses
- Provide strategies for developing and implementing trauma-informed policies

This highly interactive training is specifically tailored to community-based criminal justice professionals, including police officers, community corrections personnel, and court personnel.



Presenters: Leslie A. Egen

Leslie received her Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice from Old Dominion University and earned her Master of Public Administration with a Concentration in Executive Leadership, from Virginia Commonwealth University. Leslie has over 20 years of experience in

the field of criminal justice and community corrections acting as a Deputy Sheriff, Probation & Parole Officer, Local Pre-trial and Probation Officer, Peer Grant Reviewer, and an EBP/Community Corrections Training and Development Coordinator for the VADOC. For the last 4 years she was a full time consultant acting as a Training and Implementation Specialist developing agency specific training and implementation materials and specialized in providing on-site training and skill coaching for staff at all levels. The bulk of her career was spent in the field as a probation and parole officer which lead her to specializing in assisting staff go from Core Correctional Practice skill acquisition to mastery of those skills through different coaching modalities.

She has directed trainings for line-staff, supervisors, and executives in Core Correctional Practices, EPICS II, IBIS, STARR, Motivational Interviewing basics and several other curriculums. She is currently in the role of Criminal Justice Program Coordinator and Policy Analyst for the Department of Criminal Justice Services specializing in work related to Mental Health, Substance Abuse, Treatment, and Re-entry initiatives. On her off time, Leslie volunteers weekly as an MRT facilitator for the Chesterfield Women's Detention and Diversion Center in Chesterfield, Virginia and says it is the best part of her week.

Aja Pappas

Ms. Pappas has extensive experience in the Criminal Justice field to include probationary services, legal research and analysis, and supervision. She also has experience in crisis intervention, crisis instruction, consumer and veteran advocacy, substance abuse and mental health education, grant writing, case management, and group facilitation. Ms. Pappas is a SAMHSA certified Trauma Informed trainer. Additionally, she served in the military. Ms. Ferguson earned a Master's degree in Criminal Justice Administration and a Bachelor's degree in Psychology from Chaminade University, Honolulu.