

## **Restorative Retelling Facilitator Training for Clinicians Course Description**

Clinicians across the nation are increasingly using the Restorative Retelling (RR) model in their work. The likelihood of a client coming in with the complication of a violent death is increasing. Developed originally for closed time-limited groups RR has been successful in other modalities as well. Traditional grief counseling is often inadequate when working with this complex issue. Restorative Retelling is a process that fosters clients' innate resilience to counterbalance trauma.

Restorative Retelling is an evidence-based approach that has been shown to “significantly decrease symptoms” comparing pre and post measures. While RR has been provided for all violent losses; this course is designed with special emphasis on working with co-victims of homicide.

**Center for Victims Research did an analysis of what was available. Ms Saindon was one of three special subjects experts to contribute to this review. Link below will take you to the full report.**

### **What we know about Homicide Victims Research**

**One of their comments about our approach was:**

*Few wraparound services and long-term care exist to specifically address homicide co-victims' complex needs, and even fewer evaluations of those services' effectiveness at addressing co-victims' needs have been done. One exception—Restorative Retelling—is a group therapy program that has shown promise at improving the psychological wellbeing of homicide co-victims.*

### **Facilitator Training**

This Restorative Retelling (RR) Training will be delivered via Zoom classes.

**Training led by Connie Saindon, MFT, Founder of Survivors of Violent Loss, author, and researcher. Her work is informed by the loss of her sister in 1961 to homicide.**

**Tammy Carter, MFT, guest trainer is Program Director of Survivors of Violent Loss and clinician specializing in traumatic grief and Restorative Retelling.**

### **Required Publications:**

#### **Books:**

*1, The Journey Workbook: learning to live with violent death. (Amazon.com)*

**2. Free Downloadable Documents:** Accommodation to Violent Dying is a guide to Restorative Retelling and support Also, (Available in Spanish)

**Recommended:**

*Murder Survivors Handbook, real-stories, tips, and resources* by **Connie Saindon and over 100 contributors.**

Restorative Retelling (RR) Clinical Group Training offers a eighteen-hour course that provides a guide to conducting Restorative Retelling support groups.

Class size is limited to ten participants and is held for two hours at a time over zoom with supplemental reading for some sessions. Attendance is required for all sessions to get the greatest benefit. If more than two class sessions are missed, you will be assigned a next available class.

**Course Content:(Partial list)**

1. Introduction to Retelling Violent Death
2. Available Interventions and prohibited interventions
3. Screening Instruments and results
4. Facilitator characteristics and attitudes
5. Structure and Sequence of Sessions with case examples

**Objectives:**

1. Attendees will be able to name the three major RR interventions.
2. Attendees will name three screening instruments.
3. Attendees will be able to articulate RR facilitator characteristics.
4. Attendees will be able to articulate the rationale for the ten-week model.
5. Attendees will learn the format of RR group sessions.

**Journal Articles and Clinical Trials**

- Connie Saindon, Alyssa A. Rheingold, Jenna Baddeley, Meghan M. Wallace, Clara Brown & Edward K. Rynearson (2014) Restorative Retelling for Violent Loss: An Open Clinical Trial, *Death Studies*, 38:4, 251-258, DOI: 10.1080/07481187.2013.783654
- Alyssa A. Rheingold, Jenna L. Baddeley, Joah L. Williams, Clara Brown, Megan M. Wallace, Fanny Correa & Edward K. Rynearson (2015) Restorative Retelling for Violent Death: An Investigation of Treatment Effectiveness, Influencing Factors, and Durability, *Journal of Loss and Trauma*, 20:6, 541-555, DOI: 10.1080/15325024.2014.957602
- Jenna L. Baddeley, Joah L. Williams, Ted Rynearson, Fanny Correa, Connie Saindon & Alyssa A. Rheingold (2015) Death Thoughts and Images in Treatment-Seekers After Violent Loss, *Death Studies*, 39:2, 84-91, DOI: 10.1080/07481187.2014.893274