

Advancing a Trauma-Informed Continuum in the Perinatal Period—Workforce Development and Support

Workshop Description

Mental health, addiction, juvenile justice, pediatrics practices, and even schools are advancing trauma-informed approaches to the services they deliver. Many perinatal services are poised to adopt this approach and begin offering targeted interventions and trauma-focused treatments. Workforce development is key in the early stages, and trauma-informed organizations also know it is vital to support those working on the frontlines with patients/clients who have a history of trauma. This practical workshop will present research and case-based stories that highlight the value of workforce development as a key strategy for success. Topics will include:

- Lessons learned from attempts where good intentions fell short and workforce development helped
- Research on what training opportunities perinatal providers want
- The value of solving the “chicken & egg problem” of screening and offering trauma-specific services
- Why multiple approaches to workforce development are useful—more examples are available now
- Training and sustaining the team—both need to be trauma-informed and focused on skill development
- Hands-on activity to design a “tiered” plan for training a specific workforce

Registration Fee

\$150

Target Audience

Anyone interested in practical information about providing trauma-informed services for childbearing women.

Presented by

Mickey Sperlich, PhD, MSW, CPM

Dr. Sperlich is a midwife, social worker, and infant mental health specialist. Her program of research focuses on evolving definitions of trauma, perinatal trauma-specific interventions, and community-based participatory studies to enhance implementation of trauma-informed services. She has co-developed and is studying with Professor Julia Seng a perinatal psychoeducation program and is studying other established PTSD programs adapted to perinatal settings. Her teaching expertise is on preparation of trauma-specialized social workers and workforce development of other members of the perinatal services team to practice within a system of trauma-informed services.