

# Trauma-Informed Practices:

ENHANCING PROGRAMS AND PROMOTING STAFF SAFETY AND WELLNESS

# Why learn about Trauma-Informed Care in the workplace?

#### SAMHSA's definition of TRAUMA:

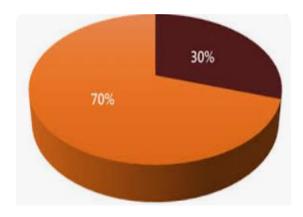
'Individual trauma results from an event, series of events, or set of circumstances that is experienced by an individual as physically or emotionally harmful or threatening and that has lasting adverse effects in the individual's functioning and physical, social, emotional, or spiritual well-being.'

- ✓ Event
- ✓ Experience
- ✓ Effects

# What is Trauma?

## How common is trauma?

70% of adults in the USA have experienced at least one traumatic event in their lives.

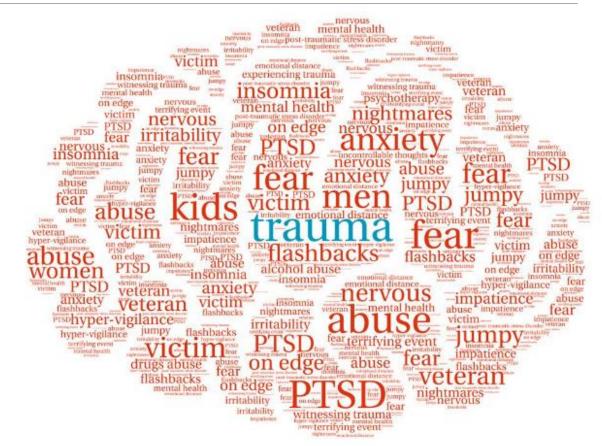


That's 223.4 million people.

- About **5 out of every 100** adults in the USA had a PTSD diagnosis in any given year
- In 2020, approximately **13 million**Americans have a PTSD diagnosis
- Women are statistically more likely to be diagnosed with PTSD than men
- About 8 of every 100 women and 4 of every 100 men will have PTSD at some point in their life

# How common is trauma in the criminal justice-involved population?

- People who are justice-involved report significantly higher rates of trauma than other groups
- Prevalence estimates vary;
   however, trauma is a near universal experience for this population (according to SAMHSA)



### How common is vicarious trauma in the helping professions?

Burnout

Reduced Efficacy

Cynicism or Negativism

Feelings of Energy
Depletion or
Exhaustion

Compassion Fatigue

Burnout Symptoms

**Emotional Exhaustion** 

Weariness of hearing people's problems & "helping them"

Vicarious Trauma

Burnout Symptoms

Compassion Fatigue Symptoms

Emotional Residue & traumatic stories linger

World View is negatively impacted

Between 40 and 85 percent of helping professionals have developed vicarious trauma, compassion fatigue, and/or high rates of traumatic symptoms, according to several studies.

# What is Trauma-Informed Care? (4 Rs)

**REALIZES** 

Realizes impact of trauma and understands the paths for recovery

**RECOGNIZES** 

**Recognizes** signs and symptoms of trauma in clients, staff + others

**RESPONDS** 

**Responds** by fully integrating knowledge about trauma into policies, procedures and practices

RESISTS

Seeks to actively **resist** re-traumatization

### What are some of the benefits of Trauma-Informed Practices



Safety for all



Staff retention



Resilience & growth



Wellness and preventive care in the workplace



Trauma awareness mitigates vicarious trauma



Promote recovery from trauma

# How do I start incorporating Trauma-Informed Care into staff training?



### Training on:

Trauma Awareness & Understanding

Trauma Recognition

Effective Responses

Trauma-Informed Referral Resources

# Some of the ways NYCJA has incorporated **Trauma-Informed Practices** in our pretrial work

SAMHSA's train-the-trainer grant allowed us to training multiple staff as trainers

Train all staff on "How Being Trauma-Informed Improves Criminal Justice System Responses" Find your local trainer:

https://www.samhsa.gov/gains-center/trauma-training-criminal-justice-professionals

- > Promote the "Universal Assumption of Trauma"
- ➤ Prioritize wellness in the workplace
- ➤ Normalize therapy
- > Train staff on Self-Care & Resilience: provide space & time to create a self-care plan



Language:

It's both what you say and how you say it



Policies/practices:

Are they aligned with trauma-informed care?



Physical space

**assessment**: Are there opportunities for change?



**Supervision:** 

What is covered and how?



Reflective practices:

"How am I really?"

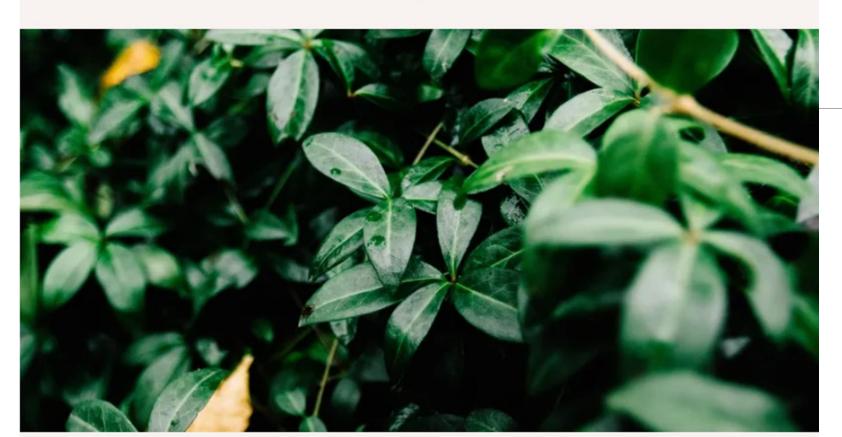


#### Ongoing assessment

of staff experiences: "How are they really?"

Additional ways to include Trauma-Informed Practice in pretrial work

### Professional Quality of Life



Professional Quality of Life (proQOL) is intended for any helper - health care professionals, social service workers, teachers, attorneys, emergency response, etc. Understanding the positive and negative aspects of helping those who experience trauma and suffering can improve your ability to help them and your ability to keep your own balance.

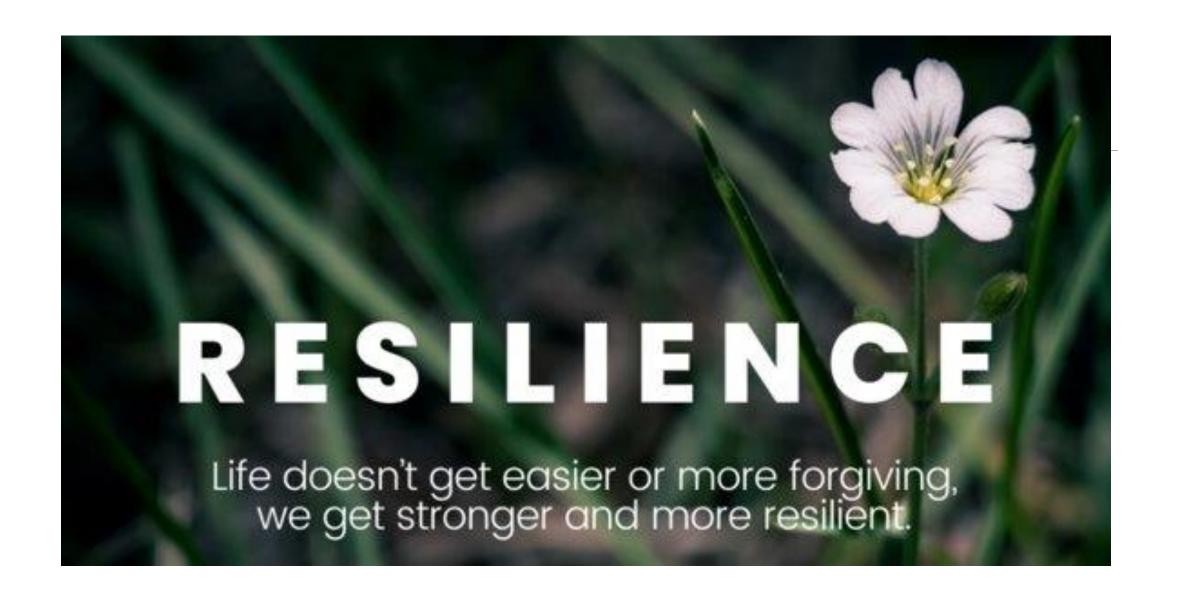
https://proqol.org/proqol-measure



Self-Care planning to build resilience







Creating a Culture of Wellness





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