

Recognizing and Working with Students who have been Traumatized

Target Audience: K-12 School Teams and After School Teams (administrators, teachers, counselors, school professionals and/or parents)

Are you and your faculty and staff equipped to recognize and aid students who have experienced trauma and/or may be psychologically/psychiatrically troubled?

Why is recognizing and working with students who have been traumatized important?

Emotional trauma from physical or emotional abuse, or experiencing situations in which one's safety is in serious jeopardy, affects a significant percentage of our children. Over 6.1 million children between the ages of 10-16 have suffered some sort of traumatic event that places them at risk for problems with relationships and school. Educators and even school counselors often fail to recognize when a student may have been traumatized.

Trauma interferes with children's ability to learn. Moreover, traumatized children often disrupt the classroom interfering with everyone's ability to learn. Knowing how to recognize, support, and refer traumatized children will both foster the ability of the traumatized student to learn and improve the atmosphere of the entire class and school. It will also help to free teachers from dealing with discipline problems and allow them to return to teaching academic skills.

How can this program help my school?

This program will help your school in three major ways: (1) Supporting educators and other school personnel to recognize and being able to helpfully deal with trauma in students; (2) Understanding how to manage the boundary between being an educator and a clinician; and, (3) Developing social skills and ethical dispositions that support caring, safe and civil school communities: reflective, empathic, cooperative and upstander related skills and dispositions.

What do I get with the *Recognizing and Working with Students who have been Traumatized* program?

Our ability to listen, comfort and help a child who may be distressed or traumatized is an essential requisite to providing a socially and emotionally safe learning environment. Many students who "mis-behave" in school are, in fact, traumatized and/or troubled.

In this workshop series, participants will learn about:

- The nature of trauma and psychological/psychiatric troubles in youth.
- How to recognize verbal and non-verbal signs of trauma and/or psychiatric problems in children and adolescents.

- What educators can do (and what we can't do) for students who have been traumatized and/or are troubled.
- Learn about and identify strategies and activities that can be used to create safer, more caring and responsive classrooms and after-school settings.

This is a powerfully reflective workshop series in which participants learn ways to build on their existing programs and strategies in working with traumatized students. Individuals and teams will be provided with specific tools, strategies and guidelines that support educators recognizing and being able to effectively work with students who may have been traumatized and/or psychologically troubled.

With the *Recognizing and Working with Students who have been Traumatized* program you will receive:

- Two half day or one full day workshop for the entire school staff to learn about the *Recognizing and Working with Students who have been Traumatized* program and begin to develop specific plans that build on your schools past efforts.
- Periodic phone and email contact between our consultant and a designated “point person” in the school(s) will be an intermittent but ongoing part of the process. This will allow our consultants to understand successes and challenges and be helpful – from afar – in any and all ways that they can.
- A Manual that contains a range of information, guidelines and tools for the staff that supports a range of ways that we can and may want to support our initial efforts.

To find out how the *Recognizing and Working with Students who have been Traumatized* program can serve your school or district, call us at (212) 707-8799 or write to us at info@csee.net to learn more about our Professional Development Services.