



mary magdalene project

EXTRAORDINARY TRAINING OPPORTUNITY ABOUT AN EXTRAORDINARY POPULATION

ANNOUNCING SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA'S ONLY TRAINING FOR PEOPLE WHO COUNSEL OR WORK WITH SEX WORKERS AND PROSTITUTES TRYING TO CHANGE THEIR LIVES

WHAT: A treatment model exploring the multiple addiction possibilities designed specifically *for* sex workers *by* sex workers

WHEN: 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM Tues and Wed, October 27th and 28th, 2009

WHERE: Mary Magdalene Project Drop In Center
7136 Haskell Avenue, Suite 125 (Sherman Way / Haskell), Van Nuys, CA 91406
Parking, Lunch, Beverages, Certificates of Completion Included

WHO: Lauren Casey, Ph.D. Candidate, SWAT Canada
Sex Workers Addressing Treatment
Martin McCombs, Ph.D., Mary Magdalene Project, LA

Fees: \$175.00 per person
10% discount for groups of 3 or more enrollments

*THIS SPECIAL TRAINING EVENT IS CO-SPONSORED BY
MARY MAGDALENE PROJECT OF LOS ANGELES
AND S.W.A.T. OF CANADA AND WILL BE
THE ONLY SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA TRAINING THIS YEAR*

This training appropriate for:

- Mental Health Professionals (8 hours BBSE CEU's - pre-registration required)
- Health Care providers and staff providing women's social services
- Drug treatment providers
- Law enforcement and legal service providers
- Policy managers in health, education, employment, law and justice

Mary Magdalene Project

www.mmp.org

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(818) 988-4970

(818) 947-3923 fax

FOR RESERVATIONS/MORE INFORMATION: Carra Smith

818-988-4970, Mary Magdalene Project

Checks payable to: Mary Magdalene Project

LIMITED SPACE AVAILABLE

WHAT IS SWAT?

SWAT is a substance abuse treatment model specifically for sex workers developed by sex workers. It includes 18 stand-alone workshops focusing on issues sex workers face when trying to transition out of the sex industry. These issues are separate from drug and/or alcohol misuse. The workshops are an excellent addition to existing treatment programs and services.

Evaluation findings demonstrated that the pilot SWAT program was successful in achieving nearly all of the anticipated early outcomes related to both the formative and summative evaluation. The program also made substantial progress in achieving anticipated intermediate outcomes. With regard to summative evaluation outcomes, the findings showed that for most of the women who took part in the evaluation, the SWAT had:

- contributed to women's ***reducing or quitting their substance use and involvement in sex work***
 - helped individuals regain a ***sense of hope for their future***
 - helped ***improve women's self-acceptance and self-image***
 - ***reduced women's feelings of isolation***
 - ***improved women's safety***
 - promoted women's sense they were ***valuable, contributing members of the community***
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WHY IS SWAT UNIQUE?

The SWAT treatment model is innovative, important and relevant. Many sex workers have stated that they are unable to succeed in standard treatment programs because their unique issues pertaining to working in the sex industry are not openly addressed. The SWAT model has been proven to be an effective treatment model and, as such, is now being highlighted nationally and internationally, leading to real action by substance abuse agencies and those who are interested in knowing more about the model. Organizations are looking for programs and effective models for this population. This model is now being implemented throughout Canada and the United States. This training is an important and critical component to provide stakeholders with 'insider' knowledge of the experience of those who have been working in the sex industry and have successfully overcome their addiction to drugs and/or alcohol.

FEEDBACK FROM PREVIOUS TRAINING EVENTS

- ***"Excellent"***
- ***"This was very helpful and a real eye opener"***
- ***"Looking forward to continuing the work";***
- ***"Great job! Great work!"***

Lauren Casey Bio



Lauren Casey has a Masters Degree in Sociology/Criminology specializing in women, sex work and alcohol/substance misuse. The United Nations established the World Urban Forum where Lauren was a moderator for a special session on issues surrounding prostitution at the global level. Ms. Casey has been invited to provide training to organizations in Canada, Africa, New Zealand, and the United States and continues to have worldwide inquiries. Lauren has recently developed three advisory groups across Canada consisting of

addiction specialists, policy makers, frontline workers, criminal justice employees, research scientists, employment agencies and other organizations serving those who struggle with addiction. Lauren has delivered groundbreaking presentations nationally and internationally, speaking on the necessity of inserting the experiential voice into public policy, programs and services directly relating to substance misuse and access to health care. Lauren has worked with a variety of regional and national organizations committed to the advancement of equality and human rights of marginalized populations, including sex workers, striving to improve their living and working conditions. Lauren has served as Executive Officer for two organizations, PEERS and the Canadian National Coalition of Experiential Women. With her years of addiction expertise and frontline experience she is the recipient of the Excellence in Addiction Programming Award, presented by the Association of Addiction Specialists and Allied Professionals of British Columbia, Canada, as well as the Jannit Rabinovitch Memorial Award, presented by PEERS Victoria. Lauren is currently pursuing her Ph.D. in Human and Organization Development.