

# TARRANT COUNTY RISE PROGRAM: A TRAUMA INFORMED COURT

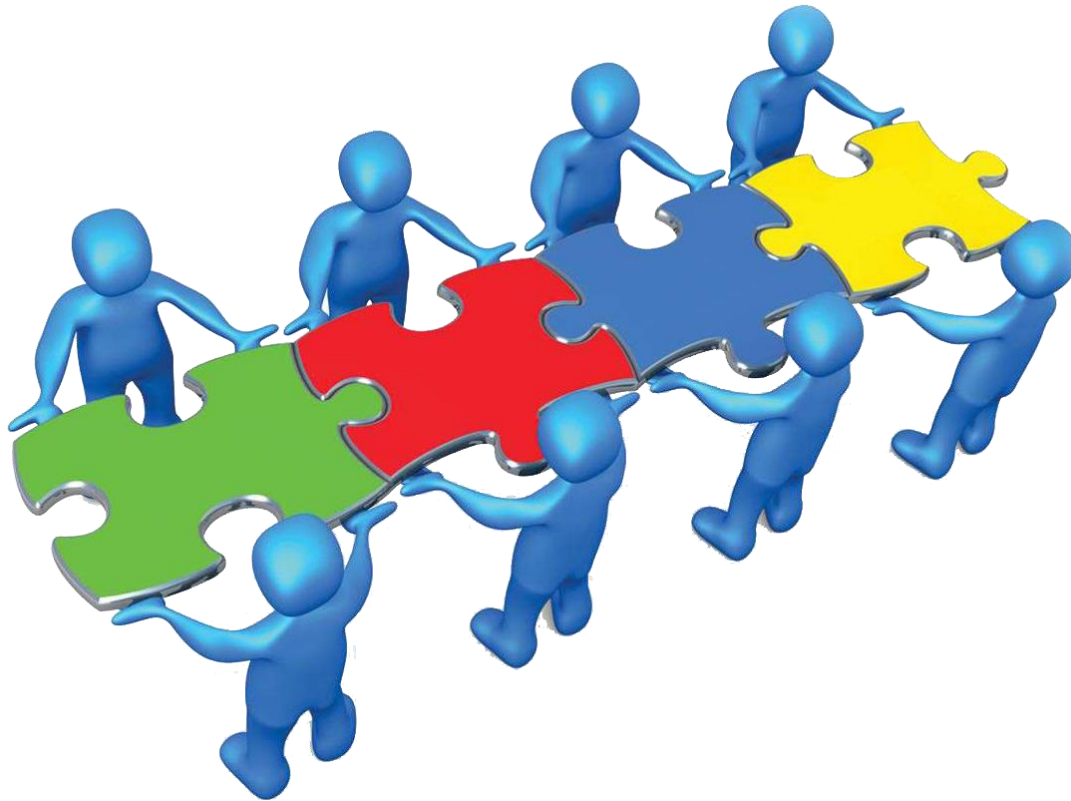
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Tre'Naisha McGuire  
Judge Sheila Wynn

# WHAT IS RISE?

- Reaching Independence through Self-Empowerment
- Treatment Court for women who have been traumatized by prostitution, sexual assault, or sexual exploitation
- Participants are high risk and have complex needs
- Goal is to help participants put the pieces back together and lead a sustainable, crime free life
- In the process, participants recover from their addictions, address their mental health needs, and heal from their trauma

# RISE TREATMENT TEAM



Judges

Tarrant County CSCD

Tarrant County MHMR

The NET

The Women's Center

The Salvation Army

Union Gospel Mission

# JUDGES

**Founding and  
Supervising Judge,**  
Brent Carr

**Presiding Judge,**  
Sheila Wynn

**District Court Judges**  
who refer participants  
to the program.



# TARRANT COUNTY CSCD- ADULT PROBATION



**Case Manager,** Amanda  
Edirimanasinghe

**Program Manager,** Tre'Naisha  
McGuire

**Unit Supervisor,** George Ateek

# TARRANT COUNTY MHMR



Psychiatric Services:  
medication and  
counseling

Case Management:  
housing and  
employment  
assistance

Rehabilitation  
Services: Daily living  
and coping skills;  
money management

Relapse Prevention:  
Assessment and  
referral by SUDS  
counselor;

Benefits Assistance  
and Maintenance:  
consumer trust fund.

TCAT, RAPP, etc.



FW Non Profit dedicated to fighting human trafficking and supporting survivors.

Provides one on one advocacy and social support to RISE participants.

Created MASE to reach the men who represented the demand side of trafficking.

Created Worthy, Co to provide survivors with dignified employment in a trauma informed way.

**THE NET:  
PURCHASED VIDEO**

**[HTTPS://VIMEO.COM/213913403](https://vimeo.com/213913403)**



# PURCHASED | ADVOCATES



*rise advocate*



*jail advocate*



*event advocate*

# THE WOMEN'S CENTER

Introduction to Trauma class

Providing individual therapy

Attending docket

Phase 5/6 trauma group

Guiding the team to be trauma informed



# THE SALVATION ARMY

**Simon Program:** single women with addiction and mental health diagnosis; provides room and board, life skills, counseling, and case management.

**First Choice Program:** women with chemical dependency and children; long term room and board, counseling, off site daycare, transportation, life skills, 12 step classes, parenting classes, money management, etc.



# UNION GOSPEL MISSION

Provides a comprehensive assessment with each client.

Identifies the client's strengths and challenges.

Establishes a trusting and empowering relationship through a case management plan to address the physical, emotional, spiritual and social needs for each client.



# WHAT IS TRAUMA?

American Psychological Association: “an emotional response to a terrible event like an accident, rape, or natural disaster.”

Everyone’s stress response system is different; so, everyone is affected by trauma differently.

Trauma can have long term effects on a person’s well-being, including physical health, mental health, and social health.

Trauma survivors often develop PTSD, depression, anxiety, attachment issues, personality disruptions, and addictions.

# WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE TRAUMA INFORMED?

“A program, organization, or system that realizes the widespread impact of trauma and understands potential paths for recovery; recognizes the signs and symptoms of trauma in clients; responds by fully integrating knowledge about trauma into policies, procedures, and practices; and, seeks to actively resist re-traumatization.

(SAMHSA, 2015)

# TRAUMA INFORMED SUPERVISION

- Care is individualized, emphasizes choice, and empowers
- Avoids unintended re-traumatization
- Facilitates Survivor participation
- Identifies and limits potential triggers
- Takes into account both the brain and body response to triggers.

# TRAUMA INFORMED SUPERVISION

- Collaboration with survivor and local service providers
- Viewing the individual as a whole and through a sociocultural lens, gaining understanding of support system and family system
- Strength-based
- Instills trauma-knowledge at all levels
- Addresses Vicarious Trauma
- Builds trust and safety



# HOW DO YOU BUILD TRUST IN SUPERVISION?

Addresses basic  
needs

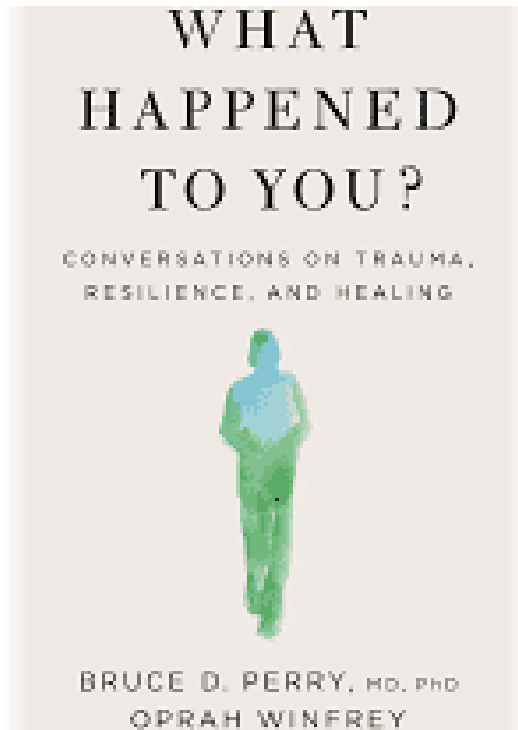
Being realistic

Not being  
judgmental

Being attentive to  
signs of stress  
and trauma

Understanding  
that building trust  
is an ongoing  
process

# DR. BRUCE PERRY AND OPRAH



- Asking “What happened to you” instead of “What’s wrong with you?”
- Experiences shape the way you view the world and how you interact with the world.
- World view affects your personal view of yourself and your place in the world.
- Life experiences shape who you are, but they also change the biology/chemistry of the brain.
- Rebuilding connections and communities can lead to recovery.

# TRAUMA INFORMED

- Listen, and really hear each other.
- Be consistent, predictable, and approachable.
- Consider the trauma brain effect.
- Focus on what happened to folks, rather than what is wrong with them.

# TRAUMA SURVIVORS' BEHAVIOR

May tend to disassociate or tune out

May excessively please the authority figure so as to not draw their attention

Bad behavior is rarely personal; it is a fight or flight that is often misinterpreted.

As a judge or probation officer, this is delicate ground. Holding people accountable while not re-traumatizing them and/or misinterpreting what is going on with folks.

# SO WHAT DO WE DO?

Get people regulated—balanced. If you get signals from people in your program that you are welcome and you belong, you feel safe and secure.

When people feel stressed, the top part of their brain shuts down.

Connect with them emotionally as a person.

# HEALING IS ALWAYS POSSIBLE

If dysregulated, your cortex is shut down. No matter how much education, treatment, etc, it's not going to work until you regulate, relate, and then reason.

Routines: consistent meals, sleep, schedules, (SA and UGM provide this)

When you are in groups, you feel safe and connected.

Rhythm and routine are important.

Reach the brain with sufficient repetition; if you build a community of folks who believe in them and support them, that can help them change.

# RESULTS

Graduates: 41

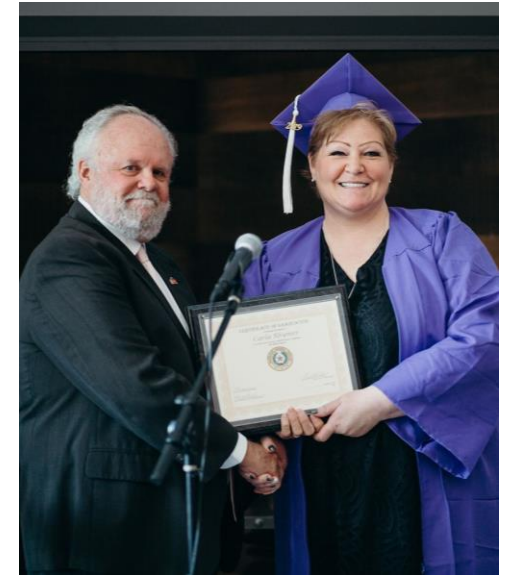
Average time in the program:  
39 months

Education:

13 Graduates are working on  
their Associates Degrees

1 Graduate is working on her  
Bachelors Degree

2 Graduates are currently in  
Master's Degree programs







# RESULTS

Currently in program: 28

- ❖ Employed: 14
- ❖ Private residence: 9
- ❖ Education (college/GED): 8
- ❖ Residential Treatment: 10
- ❖ Supportive Housing: 13
- ❖ In treatment: 25



# QUESTIONS?

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