

# ***Understanding the Societal Context: What People with Impairments Are Up Against***

## **Workshop description**

This workshop invites participants to explore the wounding experiences with which many people with physical & intellectual impairments live as a result of being devalued by society. The goal of addressing such devaluation, by helping devalued people to attain valued social roles, will be described. Participants will learn about the universal aspects of social devaluation & the importance of personal identification with the people they serve. The workshop includes lecture, lots of stories & examples, audience questions & discussion, as well as questions for participants to reflect on.

This workshop is based on the work of Dr. Wolfensberger of Syracuse University (New York, US), who developed Social Role Valorization, a coherent set of ideas for addressing devaluation.

## **Workshop format**

This is a one-day workshop (typical hours from 9 am to 4 pm).

## **About the presenter**

Jo Massarelli directs *The SRV Implementation Project (SRVIP)*, a human service training & consultation project based in Worcester, MA. The mission of the SRVIP is to address social devaluation in all its forms & to promote the work of Dr. W. Wolfensberger. This mission includes training human service workers & other interested parties, conducting evaluations of human service programs, & working to create positive change for service recipients & their families.

## **For more information**

Contact the workshop registrar; 508.752.3670; [register@srvip.org](mailto:register@srvip.org); SRVIP, 74 Elm Street, Worcester, MA 01609 USA. For more about Social Role Valorization, visit the website [www.srvip.org](http://www.srvip.org).