

SRVIP

The Social Role Valorization
Implementation Project

Virtual Trainings: 2024/2025

Offerings via video conferencing technology

Goals and Objectives of SRVIP Training Offerings

- » *SRV training and its derivatives consists of presentations, exercises, reflective writing and plenary discussion to accomplish the goals of deepening participants' understanding of and identification with the people they serve*
- » *Encouraging reflection on some of the major issues facing people with impairments in our current society*
- » *Helping participants gain insights into their own role as a human service worker*
- » *Assisting participants to clarify their purposes and goals as people in service to another*
- » *Gaining appreciation of the importance of valued social roles for living a typical life as a valued member of society*

See next page for list of offerings >>

Leadership-Level SRV Workshop Series

(Presented in nine parts)

This workshop provides an introduction to Social Role Valorization (SRV), developed by Dr. Wolf Wolfensberger. His work helped lay the foundation for many current human service trends, including the development of community services, integration, self-determination and rights, and person-centered planning.

SRV is a systematic, universally applicable framework for structuring human services, applicable to administration, board members, direct service workers and families. SRV describes a close relationship between the perceived value of the roles that people hold, and whether people in those roles will be accorded opportunities and other 'good things of life.' Bad things tend to get done to people who are seen in devalued roles, and good things tend to be afforded to people in positively valued roles.

The workshop offers a critical SRV-based look at many contemporary human service practices. Participants will benefit from lectures, question and answer periods, and discussion. Written assignments will be accomplished between sessions and will form the basis for reflection and conversation.

SESSION 1:

- » *Social Evaluation, Devaluation & Its Impact*

SESSION 2:

- » *Common Wounds of Devalued People*

SESSION 3:

- » *Introduction to SRV*

SESSION 4:

- » *Crafting the Role Valorizing Mindset: Unconsciousness, and Interpersonal Identification*

SESSION 5:

- » *Crafting the Role Valorizing Mindset: Imagery*

SESSION 6:

- » *Crafting the Role Valorizing Mindset: Compensating for Heightened Vulnerability*

SESSION 7:

- » *Crafting the Role Valorizing Mindset: Imitation and Competency Enhancement*

SESSION 8:

- » *Crafting the Role Valorizing Mindset: Role Expectancy and Valued Social Participation*

SESSION 9:

- » *Implementation; Conclusion*

What Socially Devalued People Are Up Against, & What Can Be Done about It: an SRV Approach

(One 2.5 hour session, three 2 hour sessions)

This series is for the participant unfamiliar with SRV, and who wants to know what it is about and how to utilize some of its important concepts.

FIRST SESSION (2.5 HOURS):

Laying the Necessary Groundwork

Includes: the reality of social devaluation, the common negative life experiences of devalued people and some typical response patterns.

SECOND SESSION (2 HOURS):

The Importance of Social Role Valorization in Addressing Devaluation

Includes: what is Social Role Valorization and how it differs from other approaches to service, the goal of attaining the good things of life and the power of valued social roles in doing so.

THIRD SESSION (2 HOURS):

Common Human Service Weakness, & Positive SRV Approaches to Service

Includes: a review of some major ideas & action implications of SRV.

FOURTH SESSION (2 HOURS):

Key SRV Ideas (continued) and Course Conclusion

Includes: a description of the two strategies of image enhancement and competency enhancement, and some illustrations as to how SRV can make a difference.

Medical Safeguarding

(Three 2 hour sessions)

This is a series designed for those who are concerned with negotiating medical services on behalf of another. It is focused on crafting an adaptive mindset for medical advocacy, and for avoiding problems before they occur. The series is conducted by Jo Massarelli with her two co-workers, Cathy Ludlum, who has negotiated health care systems for herself and for others with significant disabilities, and Siobhan McKay, a nurse who specializes in advocacy.

Life-Threatening Public Policy

An Eight Part Lecture Series in Three Hour Sessions

Public policy that has threatened the lives of people with physical and mental impairments and other devalued people is not a new, or even a modern concept. However, the legitimizing of methods and policies that result in the deaths of people in today's world is unprecedented. Life-Threatening Public Policy is an eight part lecture series designed to explore contemporary examples of deathmaking through public policy, to describe them as a pattern contributing to the vulnerability of people with impairments, and to call participants to careful reflection and to positive action. This is a course designed for anyone interested in defending the lives of people with impairments, especially for those willing to consider that ours is a society which is prepared to do away with those it devalues.

Protecting the Health and Lives of Hospital Patients

(Three 2 hour sessions)

This series is a companion to Dr. Wolf Wolfensberger's book of the same title. It is particularly helpful for family members who accompany their loved one to the hospital in that it offers guidance for what is to be done bedside to help ensure good outcomes.

Topics include:

- » *Perils Inherent in Modern Hospital Settings*
- » *Additional Dangers for Devalued People*
- » *Protective Measures I*
- » *Protective Measures II*
- » *Dealing with Conflict*

Advanced Topics for Reflection / Discussion

(Five 1.5 hour sessions)

This is a series geared for those who have attended a four day leadership level SRV Training and/or PASSING. It is meant to bridge the gap between their initial intensive study and their next advanced event (PASSING, Personalism, Moral Coherency, etc.) whenever that should occur. It is conceptualized as a study group with presentation, reflective writing and discussion.

Topics include:

- » *Wisdom, Folly and the Prophetic Voice of Intellectually Impaired People*
- » *Why Disability Doesn't Trust Medicine*
- » *What SRV has to Offer in Times of Pandemic*
- » *The Tension Between Personal Autonomy and Community Life*
- » *What Makes SRV Different from Other Human Service Approaches*

Called to Serve: Reflecting on the Role of the Service Worker

(3 two hour sessions)

This series invites participants to explore the nature of what it means to serve those in need, particularly those devalued by society. Each session builds on previous sessions.

SESSION 1 (2 HOURS):

- » *Introduction*
- » *The Social, Cultural & Historical Contexts of Service to Others*
- » *Lessons Learned from These Different Contexts of Service*

SESSION 2 (2 HOURS) (PREREQUISITE PART I):

- » *Principles of Service to Others*

- » *Guidelines & Strategies for Service*

SESSION 3 (2 HOURS) (PREREQUISITES PART I AND PART II):

- » *Blocks to Providing Relevant & Effective Service to Others*
- » *Fruits of Offering Relevant & Effective Service*
- » *Conclusion*

Issues Of Power And Control That Can Lead To Violence In Human Services

(Two 2 hour sessions)

It is in the nature of most organized human services to have a great degree of control over the lives of the people they serve. Due in part to this control imbalance, human service workers often wield a disproportionate amount of power over the people they are paid to serve. Given the social devaluation and vulnerability of people receiving formal human services, this power and control can easily slip into harmdoing and violence being enacted against service recipients, though often in a disguised fashion. Such violence can range from subtle to overt. Besides being harmful to the violated person, such violence cannot help but negatively affect the relationship between service workers and those served. A greater awareness of these dynamics can help service workers to achieve and hold onto a more valid stance vis-à-vis their service role.

SESSION 1:

- » *Analysis of Common Dynamics of Power, Control and Violence in Human Services*

SESSION 2:

- » *Taking a Proactive Approach to the Common Dynamics*

Getting It Right: Improving Our Decision Making Processes

(Two 2 hour sessions)

SESSION 1:

- » *Introduction to the broader topic*
- » *Connections to human services and to advocacy*
- » *Decision making processes under conditions of uncertainty*

SESSION 2:

- » *Common pitfalls and problems in decision making processes*
- » *How might we adaptively respond to these problems and pitfalls so that we are using better decision processes and making better decisions?*

The War On The Poor: Exploring The Link Between Poverty And Vulnerability

(One 2 hour session)

One of the typical consequences of societal devaluation and heightened vulnerability is impoverishment. Living in poverty has predictably devastating consequences on individuals, families, communities and society as a whole. The War On Poverty, declared in 1964 in the USA, did not address the largely unconscious and systemic dynamics that result from being poor, but rather in a war on the poor themselves. This 'war' causes physical, emotional, intellectual and social wounds in the lives of poor people and families, and creates barriers between those who are poor and those who are better off financially. This war on the poor is fueled by the negative perception of poor people as undeserving. What does this cycle of negative perception and treatment of poor people look like? Where does it come from? What can we do in response? This presentation will invite us to recognize the consequences of our social policies, including many of our human service agency policies, as well as our individual beliefs around poverty.

Selection, and the Lessons of History

(Two 2 hour sessions)

This class is a pair of two-hour lectures, with reflection and discussion, focusing on an often-misunderstood aspect of the history of people with intellectual impairments. What has happened to people, when their society decides it would be a better world if that group did not even exist?

SESSION 1:

- » *How "selection" worked at Auschwitz, and what it means in other contexts.*
- » *The mass murder of people with intellectual impairments by the German medical profession during World War II, including the rationales for it and the opposition to it.*
- » *The international (and especially American) eugenics movement, which brought forced sterilization, institutionalization, and restricted immigration.*

SESSION 2:

- » *Continuing the American eugenics movement, quoting remarkable endorsements from major American leaders of both Right and Left.*
- » *The mainstream approval of eugenics up to the Supreme Court, and the lonely opposition to eugenics.*
- » *The ways in which the eugenics mindset persists in our own society today, especially in contemporary law and medicine and bioethics, even though the word "eugenics" is no longer used.*

Being of Service: Great Exemplars

(Three 1.5 hour sessions)

Three one hour sessions each offer a biographical sketch of an historical figure as an exemplar of service. Following a short presentation on a given individual, students are invited to reflect upon a question and to share their reflections with one another. There will be additional discussion of the nature of service, and of service calling.

SESSION ONE:

- » Clara Barton and Walt Whitman,
- » Nurses in the Civil War on the battlefield and in the army hospitals

SESSION TWO:

- » Eleanor Roosevelt and Dorothy Day,

- » Women whose dedication to service brought them influence, even in the absence of authority

SESSION THREE

- » Florence Nightingale and Samuel Gridley Howe,
- » Founders and leaders, at the same time as practitioners of personal service

The History of Services to Adults with Intellectual Impairments

(Two 2 hour sessions)

Beginning in the 1840's to the present day, there have been several revolutionary changes in how people with intellectual impairments have been viewed, treated, and served.

In this recounting of our history, we focus especially on the underlying dynamics of why people have been served in such different ways at different periods, the “big ideas” (conscious and unconscious) which have largely determined how people have been served, and how people with impairments live today.

SESSION 1:

- » From almshouse to specialized service settings (c.1843–1870)
- » The seeds of perversion: homes turn into institutions (c.1870–1900)
- » The eugenic alarm period, institutionalization, and forced sterilization (1900–1945)
- » Eugenics discredited, institutions grow and worsen (c.1945–1972)

SESSION 2:

- » Exposés, court suits, deinstitutionalization (1964–1990)
- » Community services and new lines of thinking (1972–present)
- » Expansion, diversification, and rigidification (1972–present)
- » Where are we headed?