

Understanding the Impacts and Effects of First Responder PTSD: Building Awareness, Resilience and Response

Presenter Bios:

Dr. Laurie Cyr-Martel - As clinical coordinator of UNE counseling center in Portland, Dr. Cyr-Martel brings over thirty-five years of experience in the field of emergency services and mental health. Dr. Cyr-Martel has consulted with and for emergency service systems throughout the United States including San Francisco Police Department, Anchorage Alaska emergency services, Tuscaloosa Police Department and agencies throughout New England. Laurie also serves as adjunct faculty for the Social and Behavioral Science Program at the University of Southern Maine (USM). She is currently licensed in the state of Maine as a Professional Counselor and completed her Doctorate in Behavioral Health and Integrated Care at Arizona State University. Her background also includes a Masters in Counseling Psychology, Bachelors in Social and Behavioral Sciences, Associates in Fire Technology, and past Paramedic Licensure in California and Maine. Dr. Cyr-Martel has also received training as a reserve police officer and has attended the State of Maine Criminal Justice Reserve Academy. She worked with the Lewiston Police Department for several years as their forensic behaviorist and currently serves as their Clinical Director and consultant for their critical incident team and their negotiators. Laurie is a member and national trainer for International Critical Incident Stress Foundation (ICISF) and has served on the Central Maine Critical Incident Debriefing Team for over twenty-eight years. Laurie is a member of the New England Crisis Negotiators Association, the American Mental Health Counselor Association, and the Maine Mental Health Counselor Association where she currently serves on the Board of Directors.

Paul Pinette - is co-owner and Director of Education and Consultative Services at the Maine Psychological Trauma Institute, Inc. located in Saco Maine. He has over 20 years' experience working in the mental health field, which has included inpatient, community crisis, outpatient services and trainer. Paul has specialized in providing training, consultation to communities, business, and the first responder population providing trauma informed trainings and consultation. In addition, he has recently been working closely with NAMI of Maine, who has focused their efforts on LE, often a marginalized population when it comes to accessing mental health and peer support. He has provided consultation to various LE agencies on best practice in responding to Critical Incidents. He has been trained in CISM, and was a responder as part of York County Maine's first CISM team. He is a PTSM trainer, as well as other trauma informed trainings to front line LE. Paul continues to focus his efforts on the connection of oppression and the neuro-biological impact of psychological trauma, especially to the first responder population. He is trained in EMDR Level II, and currently maintains a small private practice in Saco, Maine.

Sonny Provetto - a former police officer, is a clinical consultant and licensed therapist specializing in critical incident stress and trauma in law enforcement and other trauma-exposed organizations. He provides services for police officers, firefighters, EMTs, corrections personnel, and child protection workers. In addition to being a prominent trauma expert, Sonny has presented at national conferences and to general audiences. Some topics include building resiliency in police organizations, the implementation of wellness and development programs, and how to address secondary traumatic stress in corrections and child protection workers. 2018 EMDRIA Advocacy Award winner for the support and advancement of EMDR with first responders.

Rick Petrie - has been an EMS provider in Maine for 40 years, and is the Executive Director of Atlantic Partners EMS, an educational and administrative resource agency for EMS agencies and Hospitals. We are the designated agency for 4 of the 6 Maine EMS regions covering 180 EMS agencies and 23 Hospitals. Rick has been actively involved in Critical Incident Stress Management for Maine Public Safety providers since 1987.