Sustainability

Staunton Farm Foundation
Trauma-Informed Care Collaborative Training Project Sustainability Plan

**Sustainability:**

In its 21-year history, POWER has established a proven record of projects that have been sustained beyond their original funding. Commitment to trauma-informed treatment and support services originated with a similar project, when POWER hosted a comprehensive trauma training by Dr. Stephanie Covington in 2006.

Since that initial training, POWER has continued to emphasize the importance of trauma-informed care, integrating trauma services across its full continuum of treatment and support programs, and incorporating trauma-oriented trainings into individual staff training plans and agency-wide education and policies. POWER has always valued training across all programs, devoting a significant portion of its budget to training. In fact, in anticipation of budget cuts, the agency recently conducted a targeted appeal to support the staff training fund.

Based on Dr. Covington’s continuum model, attention to trauma in an agency setting begins with “trauma-sensitive” services, which indicate an awareness of the need to collaborate with community experts in treating trauma. The next step on the continuum is “trauma-informed” care, which describes an agency-wide sensitivity to trauma in survivors, in which all components of the service system have been evaluated within the context of a basic understanding of the role of violence in the lives of individuals seeking services. The final step is “trauma-specific” treatment, which is designed to treat the actual symptoms of trauma. Since its initial training in 2006, POWER has grown and steadily progressed across the continuum, and the 2013 training will allow POWER to move towards its ultimate goal of trauma-specific care.

POWER anticipates that the planned 2013 training in trauma-informed care will allow staff to expand and enrich its practices to encompass trauma-specific care. It will also allow the agency to educate staff from other organizations in these evidence-based practices, strengthening a wide range of social services delivered to populations who have experienced trauma.

POWER has strong staff leadership in the area of training. Diane Johnson, our Associate and Clinical Director, has an extensive background in trauma and evidence-based program delivery. Rosa Davis, Executive Director, have witnessed the additional measure of treatment effectiveness that comes with staff training, particularly trauma and evidence-based training.

POWER is fully committed to becoming trauma-specific and we welcome the opportunity to share what we have learned to benefit other area agencies.