

Updates from the Trauma Informed Care Committee

The **Trauma Informed Care Tab** is now available agency wide on the Intranet. Check it out!

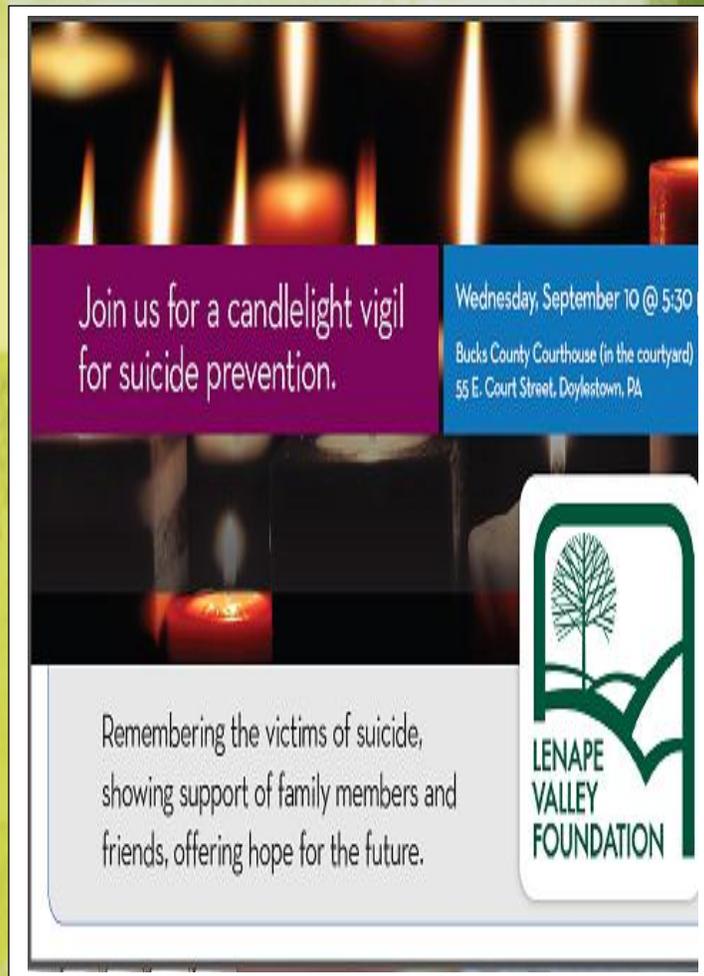
The **Trauma Informed Care Shared Drive** is now available to TIC committee members. The shared drive includes TIC agendas, minutes from TIC monthly meetings, and news articles related to Trauma.

Trauma Informed Care Training is being implemented agency-wide. All new hires will be assigned to the training and all current staff must complete the training by August 31st.

The **Organizational Self –Assessment** has been redistributed agency wide to all staff and consumers to be completed by August 26th.

A **Trauma Assessment Tool** will soon be available in the EHR.

The **Aesthetics Subcommittee** is working on the PHP area of the 500 building. They are also looking at the congestion, smoking and noise outside the front entrance. The subcommittee would like to expand its membership to include representatives from Peer Support, Partial Hospital, and Tobacco Cessation Programs.



Employee Spotlight

JoAnn Pina, Licensed Professional Counselor, BHRS Mobile Therapist

Interview conducted by Krisanna Ghadiri

KG- JoAnn, I understand you periodically work in the Dominican Republic, can you tell us little about what you do there?

JP- I provide trauma education and training to administrators, staff, and caregivers of an orphanage in San Juan, Dominican Republic. I also provide individual trauma- based treatment and group treatment for the residents of the orphanage.

KG- There seems to be a realization that trauma education and treatment can be beneficial to staff and children alike, where did that originate?

JP- The Director of the Orphanage felt there was a need for trauma based counseling for the children because of their life experiences before arriving at the orphanage, some of the children had been living on the streets for some time. Administrators hesitated to extend trauma education and training to staff, some of it based upon their (administrators) cultural perception that Dominican staff were more behaviorally focused and overlook “trauma” as impacting behavior. Many back and forth discussions took place, some of it “educational”, before they (administrators) became more agreeable and even hopeful, believing the children would benefit if staff were offered Trauma focused education and training. I was given an opportunity going forward, to educate and train staff to include; teachers, office staff, maintenance, administrators, and caretakers.

KG- What do you find most challenging about the work, what do you find most rewarding?

JP - The most challenging has been my work to challenge staff mindset, offering them a new perspective on the impact of trauma. The most rewarding has been my individual work with the children. They demonstrated such willingness to talk about things they had not been asked about or had opened up about before.

Do you have a piece for the Consumer Corner or a staff member in mind for the Staff Spotlight? If so, please contact Janet Thompson at janet.thompson@lenapevf.org or 215-345-7523.