

Introduction to Loss and Bereavement

Date Friday 17 March 2017

Course outline and aims

Death and loss are perhaps the most significant events we have to confront. The threat or actual loss of a significant other can have a profound impact on our wellbeing and can lead to serious and enduring psychological problems. Most of us need time and support from those around us in order to find a new sense of being in the world.

For people with learning disabilities the story can be much more complex. Both bereavement and disability are complex issues in our society and so when they come together it can make it very difficult for us to think and act appropriately. This training day aims to address how we can improve support for both adults and children with learning disabilities who are facing mortality issues or who are grieving.

What will you learn?

- Gain understanding of bereavement, its stages and phases and how they individually affect people.
- Developing skills to produce proactive support plans.
- Acquire understanding of how to support and communicate with a bereaved individual.
- Develop a general understanding of loss and the possible impact it may have on the individual and/or network.

Who is the course for?

This one-day course will be beneficial for any professional or practitioner working with people with learning disabilities in most settings, including:

- Teachers, teaching assistants, learning support staff
- Safeguarding leads
- Children's Social Workers
- Transition Teams
- Care staff working in supported housing, residential and day care
- Probation Service officers and staff
- Staff and volunteers working in voluntary organisations and community groups

Our training approach

The course is limited to 12 participants offering the best opportunity for you to not only learn from our Trainer, it also enables you to learn from other participants' experience of working with people with learning disabilities. The training is delivered using an effective mix of theoretical and experiential techniques.

Qualification: Certificate of Attendance

About the Trainer

The Course Trainer is Dr Noelle Blackman, CEO at Respond. Dr Blackman is co-founder of the National Network for the Palliative Care of People with Learning, Visiting Lecturer for Anglia Ruskin University on the MA Dramatherapy and Honorary Research Fellow for the University of Hertfordshire. Dr Blackman is a published author and respected speaker on many aspects of improving the life and wellbeing of people with learning disabilities or autism using a therapeutic approach. An area of special interest is research into better practice around death, dying and grief on people with learning disabilities, [Dr Blackman's published work](#).

Course logistics

Date: Friday 17 March 2017

Time: 10am to 4pm. Please arrive from 9.30am for registration and refreshments.

Venue: Respond, 3rd Floor, 24-32 Stephenson Way, London, NW1 2HD.

Getting here: Respond is located close to Euston mainline station, Euston Square underground station (Hammersmith and City, Circle and Metropolitan lines), Euston and Warren Street underground stations (Victoria and Northern lines). For up to date information on travel and transport please go to this link <https://tfl.gov.uk/plan-a-journey/>.

Lunch: Respond does not provide lunch. There are numerous sandwich shops and cafes within short walking distance of our office. You are welcome to bring your own lunch and eat in the training room.

Fee: Standard £90 and early bird £75 if booked four weeks in advance. All fees are subject to a booking charge.

Booking: booking for our training courses is through Eventbrite. Please click on this link [TBC]

Cancellation: a full refund less a £10 administration is payable if you cancel the course up to three weeks in advance. Refunds are not payable after this time.

Further information: please call 020 7383 0700 or email training@respond.org.uk with your query and we will do our best to help. Our offices are open on weekdays from 9.30am to 5pm daily.