



TRANSFORMING JUSTICE FOR VICTIMS AND SURVIVORS
THROUGH VICTIM ASSISTANCE AND RESTORATIVE JUSTICE
PARTNERSHIPS

DAY ONE TRAINER BIOS

MARY ZINKIN

Mary Zinkin, Ph.D. is the Founder and Executive Director of Center for Trauma Support Services, a community-based nonprofit providing individual trauma coaching, support groups, trauma-informed and resiliency-focused training, and Victim-Centered Offender-Sensitive Facilitated Dialogue. As a survivor of both unreported and reported crimes she understands deeply the need for attention and resources over time to recover from trauma. She has conducted her own research and attended trainings by experts in the field (Bessel Van Der Kolk, M.D., John Briere, Ph.D., Lt. Col. Grossman, Elaine Miller-Karas, LCSW, Dan Siegel, M.D.) In her trauma coaching practice, Dr. Zinkin witnesses the effectiveness of providing stabilizing support to individuals who are relieved to learn the “why” and “what” is happening as a result of the trauma as well as “how” to respond with skills for well-being. Through her Buddhist Chaplaincy Program, she deepened her expertise in trauma resiliency and facilitated dialogue in cases of severe and violent crime. She has provided training and trauma support for law enforcement officers involved in critical incidents. She participates as a volunteer in the Department of Corrections Facilitated Dialogue Program, and is a Master Trainer of the Community Resiliency Model of the Trauma Resource Institute. A retired Professor in the Conflict Resolution Graduate Program at PSU, which she co-founded, she taught Understanding Trauma/Building Resiliency and Mindfulness. Seeing trauma as a public health issue informs her efforts to ensure that there are comprehensive resources in the community. Dr. Zinkin is called to increase understanding of victim/survivor needs and sensitivity to those needs in both the criminal and restorative justice systems.

CHANEL THOMAS

Chanel Thomas has been a victim advocate for over 10 years with experience in the fields of sexual assault, domestic violence, gang impacted survivors, and, last but not least, helping family survivors of homicide victims navigate through the legal system. She has worked in non-profit environments however prefers traditional systems-based advocacy such as policing departments and the DA's office. She was born in Chicago, raised in Minneapolis but has made Portland, OR her home.