The Living Memories Project Conference
New Trends and Clinical Interventions in Grief and Bereavement Counseling

Friday, December 16, 2016
8:30-1:00 PM
Suffolk Y JCC, Commack NY
SYJCC, JASA Partners In Dignity and Fordham University Graduate School of Social Services are pleased to be offering “The Living Memories Project” Conference - New Trends and Clinical Interventions in Grief and Bereavement Counseling on Long Island. The conference will be held on Friday, December 16, 2016 from 8:30 AM - 1:00 PM at SYJCC 74 Hauppauge Rd, Commack, NY 11725.

Meryl Ain embarked on The Living Memories Project after she lost both her father and mother within 18 months. Together with her husband, Stewart, and her brother Arthur M. Fischman, they set out to learn how others celebrated how their loved ones lived, rather than focusing on how they died.

The Living Memories Project details, through interviews, anecdotes, essays, poems and photographs, the many ways that both ordinary individuals and celebrities incorporate the presence of their departed loved ones into their lives. Some who have shared their stories describe instances when they strongly and viscerally felt their loved one’s presence, while others have drawn upon rituals or created a tangible memorial to comfort themselves.

As professionals dedicated to healing and fostering resilience, we have chosen The Living Memories Project as our theme for this conference. Through the generous support of Meryl and Stewart Ain we present the Living Memories Project Conference.

Who Should Attend?
The intended audience includes: Social Workers, Psychologists, Nurses, Clergy, Mental Health Practitioners, Chaplains, Creative Arts Therapists, Educators, students and volunteers.

The main objective of the conference is for the participants to come away with new tools to provide professional, competent and compassionate care to those who are grieving or bereft.

Social Workers will receive 4 CEHs for this Conference- All sessions are approved. Fordham University Graduate School of Social Service is recognized by The State Education Department’s State Board for Social Work as an approved provider of continuing education for licensed social workers - #0066.
8:30 - 9:00 AM
Registration and Breakfast with Exhibitors

9:00 – 9:30 AM
Welcome Remarks
- Lori Hardoon, LCSW,
  Director, JASA Partners In Dignity
- Amy Chalfy, LMSW, Chief Program Officer, JASA
- Rob Greenberger, LCSW, MBA
  Chief Executive Officer, SYJCC
- Stewart Ain, Co-Author of
  The Living Memories Project: Legacies That Last

9:30 – 11:00 AM
Keynote Panel
“Grieving allows us to heal, to remember with love rather than pain. It is a sorting process. One by one you let go of things that are gone and you mourn for them. One by one you take hold of the things that have become a part of who you are and build again.” – Rachel Naomi Remen

The Keynote Panel will be discussing working with people who are grieving or seeking bereavement counseling and support through each of their unique lenses: The author/educator, the music therapist, chaplain/spiritual counselor and clinical social worker.

Panelists:
- Meryl Ain, Ed.D., Co-Author of The Living Memories Project: Legacies That Last and Author of My Living Memories Project Journal
- Kaitlyn Kelly, MS, MT-BC, LCAT, Hospice Music Therapist at the Hebrew Home in Riverdale and Adjunct Professor Music Therapy Department, Molloy College, Rockville Centre, NY
- Meredith Lisagor, M Div, BCC
  Director of Spiritual Care and Education at Mount Sinai St. Luke’s and Mount Sinai West
- Judith Pollack, LCSW, Private Practitioner and past Clinical Coordinator for Partners In Dignity

11:00 – 11:15 AM
Break with Exhibitors
Concurrent Sessions (1.5 Hours)

1. Crisis of Faith
A panel of distinguished religious leaders and an expert social worker will discuss how despite a crisis of faith, people can often times draw strength from their beliefs in coping with a loss.

Panelists:
- Seemi Ahmed, Muslim Chaplain, Board of Trustees of the Islamic Center of Long Island, Chaplain at Hofstra University and Co-chair of the New York chapter of Muslim Peace Coalition
- Rev. Mark Bigelow, the Pastoral Care Coordinator for the Visiting Nurse Service and Hospice of Suffolk and Pastor of the Congregational Church of Huntington, United Church of Christ.
- Rabbi Rachmiel Rothberger, Jewish community liaison and Jewish Chaplain at Calvary Hospital and Calvary Hospice
- Repa Dorje Odzer (Justin von Bujdoss), Buddhist Chaplain, Staff Chaplain for the New York City Department of Correction. Founder/Director of the New York Tsurphu Goshir Dharma Center
- Rev. Thomas J. Holahan, CSP, Associate Pastor at the Church of St Paul the Apostle, New York, NY.
- Judith Pollack, LCSW- Private Practitioner and past Clinical Coordinator for Partners In Dignity

2. Traumatic Loss
This workshop is intended to address the unique aspects of traumatic loss compared and contrasted with many other forms of loss. A traumatic loss is one that overwhelms the resources of the bereaved, leaving them feeling helpless, with their view of the world shattered.

Presenter:
- Mansour (Max) Banilivy, Ph.D., Director of Family Wellness Center and Direct of education, clinical training and field placement for the Network of PSCH and Pederson Krag Center Organizations.
3. The Mindful Practitioner
This workshop provides an opportunity for participants to actually experience a mindful, contemplative practice that incorporates watercolors, silence and reflection. The process brings the participants into the present moment easily, without undo striving. “Dropping color” and paying attention to the movement and blending of color slows down the “mindlessly-chattering mind” replacing it with a more focused, mindful awareness. This meditation method has been used in professional workshops with social workers, educators, nurses, hospice workers and students and requires no art background; only an openness to the process. All materials will be provided.

Presenter:
• Maureen E. Carey, LCSW, Ph.D.
  Professor of Social Work at Molloy College.
  She is also a practicing artist and co-author

4. Children’s Grief:
Grieving in the Context of Child Development and the Facilitation of Healthy Coping
One in five children will experience the death of someone that is close to them by the age of 18. This workshop is designed to provide practical information about age appropriate grief reactions.

Presenters:
• Michelle Graff, LCSW, Bereavement Specialist and Certified Resolve Through Sharing Coordinator at Good Shepherd Hospice and Palliative Care Social Worker for Catholic Health Services
• Carolyn Lisi-Haas, LCSW, Bereavement Specialist at Good Shepherd Hospice.
5. A Family Grieves  
*The Dying Child and the Impact on the Family*
This workshop will explore the many issues involved when a family experiences the dying process and loss of a child.

Presenter:
- Linda Norris Stertz, LCSW-R  
  Social Work Manager at MJHS Hospice and  
  Formerly Program Manager of Pediatric Palliative Care at VNSNY.

6. The Music Never Stops  
*Music Therapy in End-of-Life and Grief*
The session will explore music therapy goals and interventions in end-of-life and grief including anticipatory grief. *No musical background is required or needed – all are welcome!*

Presenter:
- Kaitlyn Kelly, MS, MT-BC, LCAT  
  Hospice Music Therapist at the Hebrew Home,  
  Riverdale, NY and Adjunct Professor Music Therapy Department, Molloy College,  
  Rockville Centre, NY.

7. The Empty Chair at the Table  
Grieving the loss of a loved one is a deep and difficult challenge at any time. But the holiday season can magnify your sense of loss and mourning. Family gatherings and seasonal events can be painful reminders of the absence of a loved one. This workshop will explore ways to help those who are missing loved ones get through the holidays.

Presenters:
- Meryl Ain, Ed.D., Co-Author of *The Living Memories Project: Legacies That Last* and Author of *My Living Memories Project Journal*  
  Lori Hardoon, LCSW, Director JASA Partners In Dignity
REGISTRATION FORM

Please register quickly, as space is limited.

Registration Fees

Professionals: $40 in advance by December 9th
$50 at the door

$25 for 4 SW CEHs (additional fee)

Full-time Students: $15 (Please bring your student ID)

Name:______________________________________________________________
Organization:________________________________________________________
Title:_______________________________________________________________
Address:____________________________________________________________
City:____________________ State:________ Zipcode:_______________________
Phone:________________________ Email:______________________________

Concurrent Session Selections: 1st Choice______________________________
2nd Choice______________________________

Please make checks payable to: JASA
Mail Registration Form with payment to:
JASA Partners In Dignity
158 Third Street, Suite 4
Mineola, NY 11501
OR
Register on-line at: www.jasa.org/events/conferences

For more information, contact:
Lori Hardoon, LCSW 347-547-7127
lhardoon@jasa.org
David Hymowitz, LCSW 631-462-9800 x126
dhymowitz@syjcc.org
We thank all those who have made this conference possible, especially our partners:

[Logos of SYJCC, JASA, Fordham Graduate School of Social Service, The Living Memories Project, and UJA Federation New York]