

Preconvention Institute—Thursday, November 12, 2015 (6.0 CEUs)—Full-day Session
9:00am-4:00pm

Bethany Christian Services

"Trauma Focused Care -- One Christian Agency's Work to Bring Shalom to Refugees"

Abstract: In this workshop participants will gain an understanding of the refugee experience from initial flight to permanent resettlement in a third country. You will learn the process by which international, national and local governments along with faith based agencies provide advocacy, protection and resettlement support to the refugee. You will become knowledgeable on why children and women are a uniquely vulnerable refugee group. You will understand the unique impact of trauma upon culture and how to create a trauma-informed environment that is welcoming to our newest citizens.

Outline: Topics to be addressed and timeline.

9:00am-9:30am	Overview of the worldwide refugee crisis and the impact on women and children (Dona Abbott)
9:30am- 10:00am	International, national and local communities response to the crisis (Dona Abbott)
10:00am-10:45am	Panel of refugees – share their personal experience (Dona Abbott)
10:45m-11:00am	Break
11:00am- 12:15pm	Culture and Trauma - This session will examine the interplay between trauma and culture, including ways that culture can be re-traumatizing or can be a supportive factor in the healing process (George Tyndall)
12:15pm- 1:30pm	Lunch (On Own)
1:30pm- 2:30pm	Sanctuary Model - Healing from trauma, stress, and adversity requires a comprehensive approach to creating a trauma-informed environment that promotes the healing process on all levels. Bethany Christian Services Refugee Program has implemented the Sanctuary Model of Care as a means of supporting client healing and enhancing staff support. Participants will learn how the Sanctuary Model of Care has been implemented within the Refugee Program at Bethany Christian Services as a means of creating a fully trauma-informed environment of care. (Mark Peterson & Lukas Zimkowski)
2:30pm- 2:45pm	Break
2:45pm- 4:00pm	Sanctuary Model - continued

Learning Objectives: *As a result of this presentation participants will be able to:*

1. Articulate the process for identifying refugees and moving them to safety through third country resettlement
2. Describe international, national and local service provision to refugees and the faith communities response to refugees worldwide
3. Summarize the theory and practice of the “promising practice” trauma informed Sanctuary Model

Primary Audience: Social workers, mental health professionals, case managers, students

Content Level: Beginner/Intermediate

Number of Continuing Education Contact Hours: 6.0

Bio Information:

George Tyndall, LMSW, is the Regional Director of Operations for the Grand Rapids and East Lansing locations of Bethany Christian Services. George has a bachelor’s degree in psychology from the University of Michigan and a master’s degree in social work from Grand Valley State University. George joined Bethany Christian Services in 1998. Since that time, George has provided direct clinical and administrative services to a broad range of family strengthening and family preservation programs.

Lukas Ziomkowski, LMSW is a graduate of Grand Valley State University in Grand Rapids, MI with a Master’s Degree in Social Work and a B.A. as a double major in Psychology and Integrated Studies: Taboos and Controversial Issues in Society. Lukas is a clinical and macro licensed Social Worker through the state of Michigan where he currently serves as the Program Supervisor for Bethany Christian Services’ residential programs for Unaccompanied Refugee Minors. He also chairs Bethany Christian Services’ Sanctuary Model of Care implementation team. Lukas has over 15 years of social work experience working with diverse population groups in a variety of services including wilderness adventure therapy, group residential care, refugee resettlement, individual and family counseling, as well as international experience with youth programs in Galway, Ireland.

Mark Peterson, LMSW, ACSW, earned his MSW from Western Michigan University in 1982 and has over 32 years of clinical, supervisory, and management experience. He is a certified social worker, certified addictions counselor (plus ten years supervising substance abuse programs), and has specialized training in trauma-informed treatment. Mark has co-authored three books on client treatment planning scales (adult, child, and adolescent), two books on progress notes planning, and three books on homework planning. He has been employed at Bethany Christian Services since 1995 and currently serves as the clinical director for Bethany’s Child and Family Traumatic Stress Center and its Residential Treatment programs.

Dona Abbott, MA, LLP is a graduate of Michigan State University in Lansing Michigan with a Master’s Degree in Psychology and is licensed to practice in the State of Michigan. Dona is a Branch Director for Bethany Christian Services in Grand Rapids. Dona has 37 years of experience in child welfare and administers the agency

departments working with refugees, immigrants, unaccompanied children, and volunteer and community outreach services. She has had 30 years of clinical and administrative experience working with refugees and programs that serve refugees and immigrants. Dona has worked with Haitian and Cuban refugees in the refugee camp at Guantanamo Bay Cuba and with Bosnian refugees in the refugee camp established in Fort Dix, New Jersey.