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Clinical Research and Achievements

- Achieved, through diagnosis, dialogue, observations, and responses, a foundational consensus that PTSD with etiology of litigation stress was an anxiety condition fully compensable by insurance and treatable resulting in the development of a treatment protocol. Sponsored by “Life Span” at Hospital Corporation of America MonteVista Psychiatric Hospital in Las Vegas, Nevada. (1979-84)
- Conducted research identifying the unique needs of those with PTSD, Huffer/Alexander Research 2007 sponsored by Redressinc 501c3Charity resulting in the isolation of Legal Abuse Syndrome (1997-07)
- Researched link between protracted litigation and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder resulting in a longitudinal survey supported by 10 years of therapeutic counseling and culminating in the identification of Legal Abuse Syndrome, LAS (Pub. 1995).
- Developed a mental health component, Huffer's 8-Steps, in the treatment of LAS resulting in increased executive functionality, preparedness, and recovery (Pub. 1995).
- Designed and conducted research adapting FBI critical-incident debriefing protocols for children with special needs including PTSD resulting in a training program for counselors in Clark County School District, Las Vegas, NV
- Developed a graphic for use with those under extreme stress with Complex PTSD from non-acute traumatic exposure resulting in better training of educators regarding gradual onset of PTSD.
- Broadened and aligned the diagnosis of PTSD in the DSM IV using the graphic leading to a debriefing exercise that prevents litigation ending by attrition instead of fair legal processes.
- Conducted more than 200 presentations for peer review regarding treatment protocols, potential ethics violations, and inadvertent abuses of those with PTSD in our bureaucratic and legal systems providing data for pre-publishing analysis of thesis and protocols (1983-92)
- Developed a PTSD survey modified from Keane, T.M., P.F. Malloy & J.A. Fairbank for empirical development of an MMPI subscale for the assessment of combat-related post-traumatic stress disorder applied to legal consumer experiences, *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology*, 52, 888-91. (1997).
- Researched through clinical assessments of litigants with invisible disabilities the need for physical and psychological access to improve the judicial experience resulting in recognition of advocacy as an accommodation.

- Correlates/assesses diagnoses of invisible disabilities' symptoms/characteristics with ADA mandates for accommodations applying specifically to the court system.
- Developed a rubric with projected outcomes facilitating the utilization of an advocate under the ADAAA applied specifically in the judicial system. Rubric incorporates an ethical component and knowledge of the ADAAA, fed/state/local judicial policies, characteristics and symptoms of invisible disabilities, and a mental health component (Pub. 2011).
- Developed a standard of care for litigants with invisible disabilities in the judicial system under the ADAAA with the intent of building awareness of the need for a change to a social model to accommodate the general population.
- Developed accepted syllabi for online ADA Advocate Certification and for ADA Forensic Specialist Certification program at King's International University of Science and Technology 3 semester credits, Nevada Bar Association CLEs, and Social Workers of Nevada CEUs opening up research and funding (2010-present).
- Developed a therapeutic mitigation program to facilitate a resolution for those unable/unwilling to continue in the adversarial conditions of the courtroom.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Evaluator and Expert Witness

- Testimony has met both Daubert and Frye Standards for testimony as expert witness.
- Due to the sensitive nature of litigant's cases, especially those involving domestic violence, examples are limited to the following:
 - o Accepted as an expert witness and testified in Court in Martinez Family Court, Contra Costa County, CA, May 1, 2008 for a pro se litigant.
 - o Testified in Federal Court in Palm Beach and Miami/Dade Court, Florida for pro se litigants.
 - o Served as expert witness in San Diego, CA for Attorney Stephen Dimeff.
 - o Served as expert witness in San Rafael, CA for Attorney William Russell.
 - o Served as a case consultant to Legal Victim Assistance Project (501c3) Public Charity Congressional District Programs
- Serves/served as ADA advocate/forensic specialist for clients w/invisible disabilities in the states of Nevada, Colorado, California, Michigan, Minnesota, Massachusetts, Alaska, Arizona, Alabama, New York, Texas, Virginia, Illinois, Ohio, Oregon, New Hampshire, Georgia, Pennsylvania, Florida, North Carolina, Montana, and Iowa. Consultations reach to UK, Ireland, Canada, and Australia.
- Instructs medical/legal/judicial personnel on the application of ADA law and its benefits to proceedings and participants leading to more effective use of court time and funds.
- Facilitated compliance with The American Bar Association Resolution of 2002, and the ADA Amendments Act (ADAAA) resulting in attorney's increased awareness of special needs litigants and improved services.

Founded Equal Access Advocates, EAA (renaming Legal Victim Assistance Advocates, LLC, LVAA), providing accommodation design and in-court advocacy for litigants with disabilities.

Instructs, counsels, and coaches an online ADA advocate certification training on the accommodation process referenced Titles II and III of the ADA of 1990, 42 U.S.C. §12131-12134, Civil Rights Division, Disability Rights Section and The ADAAA, 2008.

Current Licenses and Certifications

PhD Counseling and Forensic Psychology Academic/research Hon. Kings International University
Marriage and Family Therapy, Lic. #0082, Nevada State Board of Marriage and Family Therapists with full privileges to diagnose, treat, and assess clients as clinical member of AAMFT per DSMIV-V and ICD 9-10
Certified EMDR Therapist on levels I and II by Eye Movement and Desensitization Institute
Nevada Department of Education, licensed Psychology, Counselor, English, Social Studies, Special Education Title I, IDEA and Section 504
Certified in "Parent, Human, and Leader Effectiveness Training" currently Effective Training Associates, Inc., San Jose, CA.

Education

2010 Doctorate of Counseling & Forensic Psychology, high honorary academic/research PhD. 2010, Kings International University, Delaware
2009 American Bar Association Commission on Domestic Violence and DOJ-OVW bi-weekly webinar series gaining legal/sociological/medical updated knowledge resulting in advocacy for adoption of a social model for granting ADA accommodations in public services.
1974-9 Doctoral coursework, UNLV, Las Vegas, NV
1964-02 Post-Graduate Continuing Education Units in Traumatic Stress (more than 800 units) annually for relicensing
1972 M.S. 1972, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Nevada, Psychology, Pupil Personnel Services
1963 B.S. 1963, University of Idaho, Moscow, Idaho, Psychology
1959-60 Nurses Training Deaconess Hospital, Spokane, WA 1960

Current Memberships

- American Association of Marriage and Family Therapists, Clinical Member
- Nevada Association of Marriage and Family Therapists, NAMFT
- EMDRIA Professional Association of EMDR Therapists
- Las Vegas Psychiatric Society
- Faculty BMCC, Albany, NY
- NCSC National Center for State Courts International Partnership
- American Association for Persons with Disabilities
- Member of the Multidisciplinary Professionals in Colorado
- Colorado Disability Cross Coalition

Keynote and Professional Speaker, Instructor, and Consultant on Ethical Obligations of Professionals under the New ADA and Legal Abuse Syndrome

- 2013 Telly Award Winning Documentary Scandal at the State Bar.
“Traumatic Stress Suffered by Lawyers from CA State Bar”
- 2013 UCLA Law School Symposium "Including Disability: How Legal Discourse Can Shape Life's Transitions" March 22-23
- 2012 International Conference against Violence, Abuse, and Trauma focus on Elder Abuse, Re-traumatization, and the ADA, San Diego, CA September 11
- 2012 10th Biennial John Jay International Conference Global Perspectives on Justice, Security, and Human Rights John Jay College New York City, NY, June 8
- 2012 The 6th Biennial National Conference on Health and Domestic Violence to advance the health and care system responses to domestic violence San Francisco, CA, March 29.
- 2012 Keynote Speaker: The Association of Multidisciplinary Professionals Serving Families Colorado Springs, Colorado March 8.
- 2011-12 Battered Mothers Custody Conference focus on advancing the use of the ADA as a resource for domestic violence traumatic stress and introduced medical/legal model, establishing a quality standard of care for litigants with disabilities. Albany, NY
- 2010 "Ethical Obligations of ADA" attorney training for CLEs at conferences results in a greater sensitivity toward invisible disabilities and the applications of the law.
- 2010 Battered Mothers Custody Conference presentation offers insights, tactics, and resources in self-protection in the high-tech age expanding awareness and resources for self-protection for victims of domestic violence, Albany, NY, January.
- 2009 International Conference on Violence and Trauma presenter and panel member emphasizing Huffer's 8-Step Counseling Protocol increasing resilience while being re-traumatized Albany, NY, Sept.
- 2009 Battered Mothers Custody Conference presents as faculty-speaker results of research identifying common conditions resulting from protracted litigation and assistance to ADA resources, Albany, NY.
- 2008-10 PTSD, Ethics, Legal Abuse Syndrome, and Communications CME training expanding physicians' skills in diagnosing PTSD, awareness of their ethical role with the ADA, and chronic extreme stress (i.e. litigation, acute traumatic incidences) precipitate PTSD, Sunrise Hospital and Medical Center, Las Vegas, NV
- 1995-00 “FIRST” (Financial Institution Robbery Support Task Force) consultant for the U.S. Attorney’s Office and FBI in a joint effort to assist victims of bank robberies (both customers and employees) leading to a collaboration with FBI field agents yielding a video portraying adaptations from their Critical-Incident Debriefing method used with bank robbery victims and employees, Las Vegas, NV

Employment

- 2009-pres Founder and director of EAA, formerly LVAA, website dedicated to research and the training of certified ADA advocates for the invisibly disabled participating in the legal system.
- 1963-03 Clark County School District, Las Vegas, NV,
--Classroom teacher
--Counselor for general and at risk populations
--Identified Complex PTSD as a result of family trauma.
--Focus on expelled students providing a therapeutic element of rehabilitating accommodations to improve grades and behavior.
- 1986-03 Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA) liaison under Section 504 and IDEA Special Education
- 1972-pres Marriage and Family Therapy, private practice, emphasis on post-trauma stress, litigation stress, and EMDR treatments.
- 1975-8 Chapman College, La Salle University, and University of Las Vegas, Nevada Extension Division, instructed in the areas of traumatic stress resulting in the expansion of the program.

Published Works

- May 2013 *Including Disability: From Discourse to Action ADA Ethical Obligations; Nexus Requirements; Functional Screening for Designing Accommodations; Advantages of the Social Model for Determining ADA Accommodations* co-authored With Don Alan "Mo" Frederick, Esq., Adjunct Professor, University of Phoenix (Article)
- Jan 2012 *Unlocking Justice: The Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act Protecting Persons with Invisible Disabilities*. 294 pp text (self-help/textbook) for training ADA advocates and instructing use of Huffer's 8-Steps counseling protocol. ISBN 978-0-9641786-1-8.
- Jan 2011 "Therapeutic Mitigation"--pamphlet offering proxy voice service for high conflict court cases.
- Feb 2010-pres "Certified ADA Advocate Training--Ethical compliance with Titles II and III" graduate and undergraduate syllabi approved by Nevada Bar Association, Nevada Licensing Board for Social Workers, and King's International University of Science and Technology, (KIUST).
- May 2009 *PTSD in the Courts with Ethics Component* training manual.
- Jan 2009 "Application of Americans with Disabilities Act to Preventable Public Health Conditions During Litigation." BMCC, Albany, NY
- Jan 2008 "Survey of Family Court Litigation Participants Measuring Perceived Legal Abuses and Public Health Risk." BMCC, Albany, NY
- Fall 2005 "Judicial System Inaccessibility for Those with Psychiatric Injury--Legal Abuse Syndrome as a Psychiatric Injury and Diagnosable Subcategory of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder." Edited subtitle

- for publishing "Legal Abuse Syndrome: Fact or Fad" *Diogenes The Magazine*. Fall: 2005.
- 1996-7 "The Human Side," columnist, *Risk Management Magazine*, national circulation.
- 1995-03 "Dear Karin," editor/columnist, for *Nevada Woman*, biweekly magazine, advice column.
- 1995-pres *Overcoming the Devastation of Legal Abuse Syndrome*, 234-page text (self-help/textbook) for preventing and treating PTSD/LAS. ISBN 0-9641786-0-5, fifth printing
- Website** www.equalaccessadvocates.com shows examples of television appearances