

Practice Exchange Masterclass – Day 2 (Following the Masterclass on Repurposing the Cycle of Violence)

Masterclass with Dr Linda Coates and Dr Allan Wade – (Founding members of the Centre for Response-Based Practice, Canada)

The masterclass was funded by Domestic Violence Service Management (DVSM) as an insight exchange initiative.

Practice Exchange Attendees (50) - March 2019

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Participating Organisation
Liberty Domestic and Family Violence Specialist Services
Penrith Women's Health Centre
South East Sydney Local Health District
Rosie's Place
Women's Health NSW

What the session means to me:

Some information validated things I was not comfortable with in terms of responses to victims, so that was great. More challenges of how to change and put into practice. The role plays were great in demonstrating the different approaches. (Local Coordination Point (Western Sydney Women's Domestic Violence Court Advocacy Service)

I am really glad I got to attend yesterday and today! Thankyou to everyone involved. This is a big shift in thinking now having to unlearn all that I learned in my social work education but I am happy about it! I really wish we could spread the ideas of yesterday and today to all people in the 'helping profession' as well as GPs, police tec. THANK-YOU! (Nepali Cross Cultural Worker in Maternity and Child & Family Health Services - SESLHD)

Today allowed for more discussion and understanding of the framework in practice. The shift in thinking offered yesterday was supported to be meaningfully integrated into my toolbox of practice. (Violence, Abuse and Neglect Coordinator SESLHD)

Learnt a lot, hoping to start using some of the ideas. Look forward to learning more, thanks. (Women's Centre for Health and Wellbeing Albury-Wodonga INC)

This session was powerful, inspiring and motivating. The practice examples were extremely helpful and hopeful for change. I'm excited to continue sharing and learning. Thankyou. Critical reflection of practice is always important when supporting people. (Rosie's Place)

Thankyou! This session was amazing and challenged my previous learning and current way of working with clients and I feel Response-Based Practice (RBP) will and can complement the work we do at Rosie's Place. I feel excited and passionate to introduce more of RBP into my work. It has been a great two days to reflect and learn. (Rosie's Place)

We are always learning and building on our practice. More clarity was provided today in counselling and interviewing victims. Gaining more information on 'Resistance and Responses' obtains more information and gives victims the opportunity to explain and build self-esteem. I will definitely take positivity from these conversations! (Child and Family Health Nurse)

It has been extremely insightful. This training has allowed me to reflect on my interactions with the women and children I work with and I look forward to putting this practice into play and hoping my clients will have better outcomes. (Liberty Domestic and Family Violence Specialist Services)

A fantastic and practical understanding for incorporating more dialogue about resistance with my clients. Feeling inspired to get back to the counselling room tomorrow and try some of these ideas. (Sydney Women's Counselling Centre)

I really appreciated being a part of day 2 – it made day 1 make a lot more sense. These ideas really challenge our approaches to clients/women we engage with in a good way. (Primary Integrated and Community Health | Child Youth and Family Services)

Thanks so much for two days of amazing, mind blowing and informative information. I have gained so much from being a participant in these workshops. Thanks to everyone for being respectful and dignified – it has been a great few days. Thanks for hosting this event. (Rosie's Place)

Freedom. Coming home/arriving – re-remembering. (Sydney Women's Counselling Centre)

I feel empowered to continue being a good social agent to change. Learning new methods assists progress in a time where society needs us to advocate on their behalf. Looking forward to applying what I have learnt into practice. Thankyou. (Domestic Violence Court Advocacy Services (Penrith))

The idea of just getting back to being human. Being respectful and upholding dignity. I enjoyed seeing the examples of the difference between the effects and response, and object versus subject. The ideas for asking questions in a different way. (Staying Home Leaving Violence - Penrith Women's Health Centre)

The importance of language and focus when dealing with victims, looking at the responses rather than the effect and impact. It is a small change in practice that can have a huge impact and benefit. (Liberty Domestic and Family Violence Specialist Service)

I love the concept of day 2, the whole workshop. This would be a valuable tool in my work and telling my colleagues about it. Language of affects was good. I look forward to practicing and meeting in conversations with you all. Thankyou for this workshop. (Community Restorative centre (Miranda Project))

It has been so helpful to have the space to grapple with, ask questions and reflect on my practice context today. I feel really full of ideas and avenues I want to follow in trying to bring more attention to resistance, responses and dignity when working with victims of violence. (Safer Pathways Senior Clinician SESLHD)

This has been a great learning experience. Moments of discomfort, moments of solidarity and ah ha moments. New knowledge around theories and methodologies that have been accepted and part of general learning and practice (such as the cycle of Violence) has been eye opening and will definitely change my practice and give rise to many new conversations in the services I work in. Thankyou Allan and Linda and DVSM for your generosity in time and resources and I look forward to a response-based future. (Counsellor/Child Family Worker – Rosie’s Place)

It was so helpful in showing me how to practically apply the knowledge. Working with the concept of resistance and response is really going to improve my practice. (Community Liaison Domestic and Family Violence Manager - Illawarra Women's Health Centre)

The session was very thought provoking. I really appreciated the challenging of previously accepted theories and finding ways of incorporating respect and dignity in all forms of my work. (Caringbah Community Health - The Parenting Place, NSW Health)

Overall feeling really excited to re-work my practice and groups to use response-based practice and to challenge myself to flawed data and theories that pathologise and make passive women. Children’s resistance to violence, particularly looking forward to how this framework can be used to highlight responses and resistance that children use for self and parent as a new way to repair relationship that the father is trying to fracture, and how mum has resisted that fracturing. (Social Worker - St George Domestic Violence Service)

I’m excited about being in a conversation with my team and developing our practice together using Response-based practice. Thankyou Linda, Allan and DVSM. (Rosie’s Place)

Thankyou Linda and Allan! These approaches and ideas add to, complement and expand my practice and counselling work. I appreciate the opportunity for reflective practice and feel deeply passionate about this topic DFV, prevention of violence and social responses to violence. I hope to get more training opportunities with you both in the future. (Sydney Women’s Counselling Service)

I just feel so much better in terms of working with DV clients and what could come next in DV. (Anonymous)

The client is the focus – don’t get bogged down with theory. Psychological theory is quite wafty (for want of a better word). Theories built on animal experiments that significant variable influences. DV Literature is patriarchally skewed with the focus on the victim with theories that address how the victim needs to change and their psychology/deficits/lack of. The perpetrator is not addressed, is not set up as accountable. ‘out of control’, ‘can’t help it’ is fallacy. There is always control, strategy, choice of appropriate response.

These are just some of the concepts I take away with me and can now change my thinking to focus more on the perpetrators actions and accountability when speaking of DV. (Anonymous)