

The Ripple Effect:
25 Years of Risking Connection

THE RIPPLE EFFECT

25
YEARS OF

Risking Connection®

Trauma-informed training that transforms care organizations into centers of healing and hope

TRAUMATIC STRESS
INSTITUTE OF
KLINGBERG FAMILY CENTERS

www.traumati stressinstitute.org

Celebrate with us!

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RC 25 th Anniversary Agenda	
1:00 – 1:15	Welcome
1:15 – 2:00	Honoring the Past
2:00 – 3:00	Keynote by Noel Casiano, Ph.D. <i>“Rooted in Connection: Fostering Resilience Amid Uncertainty”</i>
3:00 – 3:15	Break
3:15 – 3:30	Ripple Movement Activity
3:30 – 4:15	Brag and Borrow
4:15 – 4:45	Imagineering the Future
4:45 – 5:00	Wrap Up and Close

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Welcome



Message from Dr. Steve Girelli, President and CEO of Klingberg Family Centers

 **TRUTHFULTY. STRONG.**
FAMILY SERVICES

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 **Klingberg Family Centers**



25 Years of Risking Connection: A Timeline



25
Years of Connection
1988-2024



THE AMHI
CONSENT DECREE

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2024



1989

Consumer trauma survivors in the state of Maine filed a class action lawsuit, *Bates v. Glover*, against the Augusta Mental Health Institute (AMHI) after the tragic deaths of 10 residents in 1988.



REPORT TO THE COURT

BATES, et al., v. GLOVER, et al.

Maine County Superior Court, Docket No. CT-89-08



THE AMHI CONSENT DECREE



Disability Rights Maine
2017 Capitol Mall, Suite 4
Augusta, ME 04302

(207) 625-7772 (Voice/TDD)
(207) 625-7773 (Voice/TDD)
(207) 625-7774 (Voice/TDD)
(207) 625-7775 (Voice/TDD)

www.drmaine.org

1990

The class action lawsuit leads to a consent decree ruling by Maine Superior Court Justice Bruce Chandler with these goals:

1. Ensure consumers are the driving force in their own treatment.
2. Improve quality and availability of mental health services.
3. Maximize use of "non-mental health" services whenever possible.

This consent decree is in effect for 34 years, until 2024.

25

YEARS OF RISKING CONNECTION

1994

The federal agency SAMHSA convenes the *Dare to Vision* conference, the landmark event launching the trauma-informed care movement. The Risking Connection founders first meet at this conference.



SAMHSA
Substance Abuse and Mental Health
Services Administration

25

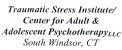
YEARS OF RISKING CONNECTION

1995

With funding from the states of Maine and New York, the Sidran Institute hires the Traumatic Stress Institute to write Risking Connection.



SIDRAN INSTITUTE
Traumatic Stress Education & Advocacy



Traumatic Stress Institute/
Center for Adult & Adolescent Psychotherapy, LLC
South Windsor, CT

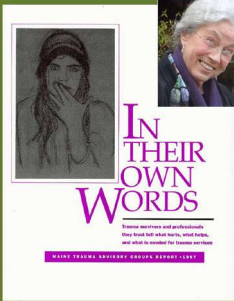


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YEARS OF RISKING CONNECTION

1996

As part of the consent decree, 250 Maine trauma survivors and providers take part in focus groups answering the questions: **What hurts? What helps? What is needed for trauma services?** This results in Dr. Ann Jennings's groundbreaking report, *In Their Own Words*. Dr. Jennings's daughter, a survivor, had taken her own life after years of misdiagnosis and poor treatment in the mental health system. This report forms the skeleton for Risking Connection.





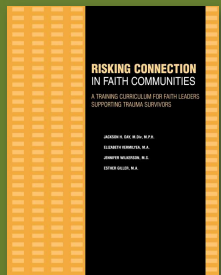
2000

The Sidran Press publishes *Risking Connection: A Training Curriculum for Working with Survivors of Childhood Abuse*.

First in a 3-ring binder.

2006

Sidran Press publishes *Risking Connection in Faith Communities: A Training Curriculum for Faith Leaders Supporting Trauma Survivors*





2006

Upon the closing of the original Traumatic Stress Institute, Klingberg Family Centers acquires the name Traumatic Stress Institute and the right to train Risking Connection.

TSI of Klingberg Family Centers begins training and consulting about trauma-informed care to agencies in Connecticut and beyond.

2010

TSI trains Risking Connection in the child welfare system of the Yukon Territories, Canada - its first client agency outside the US.

Not to be confused with UCONN.



25

YEARS OF SERVICE

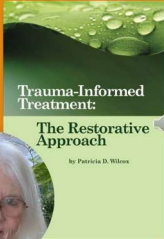
1985-2010

TSI

TRAINING SERVICES, INC.

2012

Pat Wilcox publishes *Trauma-Informed Care: The Restorative Approach* that spawns the Restorative Approach training model, often paired with Risking Connection.



25

YEARS OF SERVICE

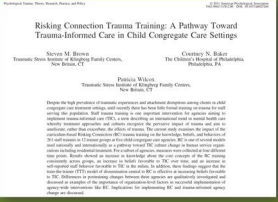
1985-2010

TSI

TRAINING SERVICES, INC.

2012

TSI publishes its first peer-reviewed article in the journal *Psychological Trauma: Theory, Research, Practice and Policy*.



25

YEARS OF SERVICE

1985-2010

TSI

TRAINING SERVICES, INC.

2014

TSI develops and begins to train another adaptation of *Risking Connection: Risking Connection for Foster Parents*.

2015

Risking Connection is listed on the California Evidenced-Based Clearinghouse for Child Welfare (CEBC).

2016

TSI and Dr. Courtney Baker create the Attitudes Related to Trauma-Informed Care (ARTIC) Scale, one of the first - and now the most widely used - validated measure of trauma-informed care.

The ARTIC Scale is used as the evaluation tool for TSI's Risking Connection Change Model.

2017

The Risking Connection community of client agencies surpasses 50.





The First Four (of 50)




Practical Guide for Implementing a Trauma-Informed Approach





2023

SAMHSA releases its third seminal paper on trauma-informed care. It cites TSI's Risking Connection Change Model as one of the frameworks used to develop the guide.

2024

The Risking Connection community of client agencies surpasses 80.







Teaching Manual
for
Risking Connection®

2024 Revision

TRAUMATIC STRESS
INSTITUTE

Staff of the Traumatic Stress Institute
of Klingberg Family Centers
www.traumaticstressinstitute.org

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2024

TSI releases its most recent revision of Risking Connection that, among other changes, integrates the impact of intergenerational trauma and the intersection between race and trauma.

2025

Risking Connection turns 25 years old!

Happy birthday, RC!
And many more!

RC Founders Panel

Esther Giller. Founder and Executive Director of Sidran Institute and Sidran Press

Melodie Peet. Former Commissioner of the Maine Department of Mental Health and Retardation

Beth Hudnall Stamm. Renowned trauma expert. Matchmaker between Sidran and the Traumatic Stress Institute

Kay Saakvitne. First author of Risking Connection. Staff at original Traumatic Stress Institute

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Personal and Professional Impact of RC





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Nearly 20 years ago, I found myself overwhelmed as a leader at a human services agency. I was doing my best to keep it together — holding in my distress for fear it would be seen as weakness. When I was invited to attend a Risking Connection® (RC) training, I had no idea how profoundly it would change the course of my work — and my life.



Jodie Tingle Willis, LCSW
RC Faculty Trainer
Owner, Supreme Peace Yoga and Wellness
Louisville, KY

From Risking Connection and trauma-informed care, I've grown as a person. I have always been an emotionally composed person, but now I understand that we all have a past which affects how we handle things. Instead of thinking, "what is wrong with you?" when people begin to irritate me, I take the time, especially if it is someone that I care about, to learn "what happened to you to make you react this way."



Juwana Hall, MSW, LSW
RC Faculty Trainer
Chief Program Officer, YWCA of Greater Cincinnati
Cincinnati, OH

Risking Connection has been the cornerstone of my career. Over twenty years later, I continue to attribute the RC training I received as the most influential and impactful of my professional career. I am forever grateful for being introduced to it early on as a direct care professional. In fact, I attribute my longevity in the field to RC. Not only did I gain compassion for those I served, but it helped buffer the impact that bearing witness had on me both professionally and personally.



Sherri Lynn McNeil,
Senior Director
Aspire Living and Learning
Leominster, MA

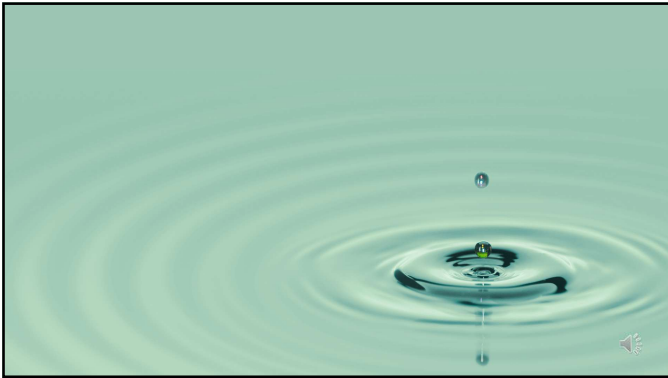
It has been a true privilege to be a graduate of TSI of Klingberg's first RC Train-of-Trainers in 2006 -- meaning I have been an RC Trainer for nearly 20 years. From the very beginning, TSI's incredible team has worked with unwavering dedication to help individuals, teams, and organizations grow through a comprehensive and realistic trauma-informed framework of care.



Amy Lefebvre
Executive Director
RC Associate Trainer
NAFI CT and NY
Farmington, CT

Break



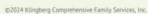




Risking Connection Brag & Borrow

Celebrating 25 Years of Collective Impact and Trauma-Informed Excellence

**Presenters: Tasha Reece, Research Coordinator
and Tanji L. Donald, Program Coordinator**





Agenda

- Welcome and Introduction
- Learning Objectives
- RC Brag & Borrow Motivators
- RC Brag & Borrow Activity
- The Harvest
- Closing



Overall Concept

Today we want to take time to share, inspire, and borrow ideas that help us keep trauma-informed practices not only alive, but thriving.

25

YEARS

1994-2019

OF RICH

25

YEARS

1994-2019

OF RICH

Learning Objectives

1. Celebrate and share effective RC-inspired activities and stories from the past 25 years
2. Gather new ideas for trainings, mini-sessions, and staff engagement practices that promote RICH
3. Strengthen cross-organizational connection by borrowing ideas that can be adapted to fit your own trauma-informed efforts

RC Brag & Borrow Example



25

YEARS

1994-2019

OF RICH

25

YEARS

1994-2019

OF RICH

Brag Time: Motivators Spotlights



Rachel Schein, Psy.D., HSP
Director of Internship Training
Devereux Massachusetts & Rhode Island

Samira Vishria, LCSW
Senior Director of Professional Development
Hillsides
Pasadena, California




25

YEARS

1994-2019

OF RICH

25

YEARS

1994-2019

OF RICH

Borrow and Brag Breakout Room Instructions

1. Brief Introductions:
Name and Organization
2. Identify a Scribe, Timekeeper and a Spokesperson
3. Take turns and respond to the questions Brag and Borrow Time
4. Scribe record responses using the Google Keep Link provided
5. Say so long when time runs out

Breakout Rooms Prompt Questions

- Name an RC win you're proud of
- How do you make RICH visible?
- What trauma-informed practices are "sticky" in your organization?
- Name one idea you'd love to borrow

Group Harvest
Northeast Center for
Youth and Families



RESPECT INFORMATION CONNECTION HOPE

Wrap-Up and
Final Words

Let's carry forward the
spirit of connection,
commitment, and
community pride into
the next 25 years.

Imagineering the Future



THANK YOU
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Founder - New Trainer Conversation



Laurie Pearlman, Ph.D. Founder, Traumatic Stress Institute. Author of Risking Connection



Jasmine Bryant, LCSW. RC Associate Trainer, RWJ Barnabas Health – Jersey City Medical Center

THANK YOU
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Community Input on TSI Strategic Goals	
Choose Your Own Break Group by Topic	
Group 1 or 2	What training offerings could TSI develop to help sustain and advance RC/TIC at an agency?
Group 3 or 4	If RC/TIC is struggling at an agency, how can TSI support a reboot of RC/TIC?
Group 5 or 6	How can TSI support using RC Champions more effectively?
Group 7 or 8	How can TSI support more effective implementation of the Restorative Approach?

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Raffle, Evaluation, Closing

 Therapeutic Village
2021-2022

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