

TASP OFFERS A LIVE, VIRTUAL ZOOM TRAINING FOR MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS WORKING WITH PARENTS WITH I/DD:

# TRAUMA, PARENTING AND INTELLECTUAL DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY: AN INTRA AND INTERAGENCY PUZZLE



As we evaluate parenting skills in parents with IDD, it is important to acknowledge and address trauma history. This training provides an overview of some of the puzzle pieces of trauma, parenting, and IDD, and puts them together in the form of a coherent treatment approach. You will gain perspective on what is possible and what is needed, and how to offer appropriate coordinated preventative and treatment services to address the needs of parents with IDD.

Join us for this half-day, live, interactive training with Dr. Virginia Cruz, an expert in the field of supported parenting who has worked in the area of developmental disabilities for over 30 years.

**Check our website for the next training dates.**

**Interested in scheduling a private training for your agency?  
Email us at [info@achancetoparent.net](mailto:info@achancetoparent.net) and we can schedule one for you.**

TASP is a leading nonprofit committed to successfully supporting families when parents have a cognitive difficulty. TASP's trainers have spent a cumulative 150 years in the field of supported parenting.



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## Training Information

A disproportionate number of families with parents with IDD end up in the child welfare system (research shows 40-80% of children are removed from the care of parents with IDD), often because preventative and supportive services were not offered to them earlier when they needed the help. No matter what door you, as a provider, walk through each day– the Developmental Disability door, the Public Health door, the Child Welfare door, the Mental Health Door, the Health and Wellness door, the Early Intervention/Education door and/or the Advocacy door (or another door!) – we need each other, and we need to work together. More importantly, parents with IDD need us, as providers, to step up and offer appropriate coordinated preventative and treatment services.

Most adults with IDD have experienced trauma at least once in their lives (and often much more), and we know that untreated trauma often results in cognitions, behaviors, and emotions that may negatively impact parenting. As we evaluate parenting skills in parents with IDD, it is important to acknowledge and address trauma history. If you acknowledge the trauma and treat the trauma, you can change the trauma behavior and increase the effectiveness of the parent program, thus increasing the quality of life for the survivor.

The intersectionality of intellectual disability, trauma and parenting is complex and just beginning to be studied, with few people having formal training in all three areas, and few, if any agencies, having this as their sole focus. Parents with IDD who have experienced trauma and need parenting support can enter through any of the above-mentioned doors. The

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question is “does the agency recognize this population-specific need”? The segmented expertise is all out there like puzzle pieces spread across a table, but few agencies have attempted to put the pieces together. We can do better.

This training provides an overview of some of the puzzle pieces of trauma, parenting, and IDD, and puts them together in the form of a comprehensive coherent treatment approach. In the four hours, you will gain perspective on what is possible, what is needed, and what puzzle pieces are still missing, and need to be further developed. You may not get all the answers, but you will get the start of sustainable change.

## About the Trainer



*Hello there!*

Dr. Virginia Cruz holds a DSW in Social Work and is semi-retired from the Metropolitan State University of Denver. She has worked in the area of developmental disabilities for over 30 years. She was Chair of the Department of Social Work at the Metropolitan State University of Denver from 1992 to 2011 and added course content on developmental disabilities to the BSW and MSW programs. She was the Director of the MSW Program from 2009 to 2012 and continues teaching, training and researching the intersectionality of child welfare and developmental disabilities.

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## **Training Cost**

### **Open/Public Virtual Trainings: \$150/person**

We offer this training to the public 2 times per year, in one half-day session. The class is limited to 30 participants, and is \$199/person. The cost includes the virtual live, half-day training lead by Dr. Virginia Cruz, and expert in the field of supported parenting.

You are welcome to register as many people from your agency as you'd like, but if you have more than 25 people you may consider a private training with the cost-saving agency rate provided.

### **Private Virtual Training for Agencies/Organizations: Flat rate of \$3600\* for up to 30 people**

We work with your agency/organization to schedule the training on a date/time that is convenient for you and your staff. The training includes everything noted above in the "Open/Public Virtual Trainings" section.

\*this is the cost for the virtual training and does not include travel costs. If/when we are able to offer the training in person those would be additional fees.

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