



Pinellas Ex-Offender Re-Entry Coalition is a non-profit organization established to address the needs of ex-offenders transitioning from incarceration back into society. We offer case management services for employment referrals, shelter referrals, electronic monitoring, MEMHS monitoring and drug testing. We also offer classes for domestic violence, substance abuse, anger management, sex offenders, life skills and a women's intervention/trauma group. I am the Outpatient Clinical Director and therefore in charge of offering classes to meet the needs of our clients.

I would venture to say that the vast majority of people we treat have been traumatized.

After attending the Peace4Tarpon meetings I initiated giving most of our clients the ACE test during the evaluation so we can better determine how to treat them. We have discovered the vast majority of our sex offenders have very high ACE scores, the average being around 7. Most of the substance users have an average of 3 or over. Some do not and those usually are the ones who are not referred for treatment.

We also started a women's trauma/intervention group. That group is specifically for women who have been traumatized whether they need drug treatment, anger management or substance abuse treatment. We treat the trauma using a seeking safety curriculum that deals with PTSD. The women love it and successfully complete with many new tools to use to help them deal with their past and future.

Peace4Tarpon has opened my eyes to a more effective and healthier way to approach the treatment of people who have experienced trauma in their lives.

Sincerely,

Denise Hughes Conlon
LMHC CAP

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