



The Worcester Institute on Loss and Trauma 15th Annual Conference



When Tragedy Happens:

Understanding Acute Trauma and Psychological First Aid

September 17, 2014

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Personal Story Keynote Presenter: “Healing Journeys: How Trauma Survivors Learn to Live Again”

Dr. Daniels is a practicing forensic and clinical psychologist and Director of the Massachusetts School of Professional Psychology (MSPP) Doctoral Forensic Psychology Concentration Program. She also teaches at MSPP and conducts seminars on trauma, forensic psychology topics and multicultural approaches to Psychological First Aid (PFA) and PTSD. She has published in numerous peer-reviewed journals and also served as a trauma panel expert and featured guest on television, both nationally and internationally. A court-qualified expert witness, Dr. Daniels is frequently called upon to provide trauma evaluations in civil court proceedings.

As the former Chief Psychologist at Port Authority of New York and New Jersey (1999-2004), Dr. Daniels is a direct survivor of the 9/11 terrorist attack on the World Trade Center. She later treated over 200 other 9/11 direct survivors including civilians, police and other emergency personnel. Subsequently, she published the book entitled: *Healing Journeys: How Trauma Survivors Learn to Live Again* (2004). In addition, Dr. Daniels served as an expert trauma consultant during hurricane Katrina, and was a member of the support team for Massachusetts families at the State Supreme Court during Zacarias Moussaoui’s 9/11 conspiracy trial. She also provided PFA to Haitian male inmates at the Boston Nashua jail, each of whom lost dozens of relatives following the 2010 massive earthquake in Haiti

Dr. Daniels is the former Director of the Juvenile Court Clinics in Dorchester and Roxbury and a former Senior Psychologist at the Mental Health Court Clinic in New York City district courts. She also served as a consultant with the Transportation Security Administration for the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

Dr. Daniels is a Diplomate member of The American Academy of Experts in Traumatic Stress and a board-certified expert in Traumatic Stress and Emergency Crisis Response. She has conducted many post-traumatic interventions and critical incident debriefings with law enforcement personnel and for financial and federal institutions. Dr. Daniels is a former Massachusetts Emergency Preparedness Department Trainer in Behavioral Health Disaster Response for Mental Health and Substance Abuse Professionals and co-authored the Massachusetts Behavioral Health Disaster Responder Participant Reference Guide.

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