

Case Studies Illustrating Holistic and Integrated Community Sex Offender Treatment

David Kolton, Ph.D.
Lawrence Ellerby, Ph.D.
Daniel Rothman, Ph.D.

The provision of clinical services to high risk adult and juvenile offenders is a challenging undertaking given the multitude and constellation of difficulties with which these clients present. In order to effectively manage risk, treatment programs providing care to this client group must seek to deliver clinical services in a way that engages the client, is attentive to responsivity issues, addresses the client's presenting needs, and targets risk factors. This workshop will utilize three case studies to provide an overview of the holistic and integrated approach to treatment and risk management undertaken by Forensic Psychological Services in an effort to effectively meet the challenges presented by high risk offenders and to assist these individuals in managing their risk and enhancing the overall quality of their lives. This workshop will highlight the critical role of creating a therapeutic alliance and therapeutic community to engage clients; an integrated multi-disciplinary treatment team approach (psychologists, therapists, support workers, Aboriginal Spiritual Elders, and consulting psychiatrist); and the incorporation of clinical (e.g., individual and group psychotherapy), support (e.g., use of individual support workers, recreational, horticultural and life skills programming), and in some cases cultural (traditional spiritual Aboriginal healing) services to manage risk and need. Practicing in a coordinated and cooperative manner with the involved criminal justice and mental health systems will also be summarized.