

PeaceWorks University 2023

Toolbox Item: Shepherding Team Roundtable – Post-Traumatic Growth

In January, March, May, July, September, and November of 2023, PWU members will receive access to bi-monthly practical, ready-to-use Toolbox items (in addition to the vast archive of past Toolbox items). These Toolbox items will correspond to each of the six Shepherding Team Roundtable videos (also new in 2023). Each video and corresponding Toolbox item will highlight one of six potential shepherding team components. These components will include (in no particular order):

- Pastors
- Advocates
- Counselors for Victims
- Counselors for Perpetrators
- [Men of Peace](#) Facilitators
- Trauma Healing/Post-Traumatic Growth

Why Shepherding Teams?

We believe the greatest potential for an abusive man's accountability and change lies in his choice to take responsibility for his repentance process and to proactively invite a variety of people (counselors, advocates, pastors, church leaders, law enforcement, etc.) to, together, act as a shepherding team. The more expansive and diverse the roles of shepherding team members, the more holistic and effective the intervention process will be (both in terms of victim care and perpetrator accountability). Individual shepherding team responsibilities will vary depending on the roles and expertise represented.

Follow the links below to learn more about why we recommend a team-based approach to domestic abuse intervention.

- [Men of Peace Shepherding Team Roundtable Video](#)
Here you'll be able to watch an informative roundtable discussion with an experienced group of individuals who have all participated in past shepherding teams for Men of Peace participants.
- [The PeaceWorks Podcast Episode – Team Based Responses](#)
In this episode of The PeaceWorks Podcast, Chris Moles shares the value of a team-based approach to domestic abuse intervention ministry.
- [The PeaceWorks Podcast Episode – Building a Team and the Called to Peace Conference](#)
In this episode of The PeaceWorks Podcast, Chris Moles shares more about the process of building a shepherding team for a team-based approach to domestic abuse intervention ministry.

PeaceWorks University Shepherding Team Support

In February, April, June, August, October, and December of 2023, PWU members will have the opportunity to participate in bi-monthly Zoom calls with Chris Moles for Shepherding Team members engaged in current domestic abuse intervention cases. These open consults will take place on the second Wednesday of the month at 12pm EST and will not be recorded or be available for later viewing.

Toolbox Item:

Shepherding Team Roundtable – Post-Traumatic Growth

In what ministry contexts might a trauma specialist serve?

- Licensed/Professional Counseling Practices
- Biblical Counseling Centers and Church Based Biblical Counseling Ministries
- Church Based and Parachurch Domestic Abuse Intervention Ministries

What are the roles and responsibilities of a trauma specialist in the intervention process?

- The impact of abuse and trauma are long-term and wide-ranging, so there will always be a need for counseling care that is abuse and trauma informed. The trauma may be associated with current abuse related to the domestic abuse case at hand or past abuse that has contributed layers of impact (to either the abuse perpetrator or victim/survivor).
- When working with abuse survivors, trauma specialists will provide a safe and supportive environment in which their counselee or client can heal from their traumatic experiences. Trauma specialists work on stabilization and safety so that the client or counselee will feel prepared and supported as they process the pain and its impact. They may spend time grieving losses, uncovering/removing negative/false beliefs associated with the abuse, and learning safe and wise relational practices as they look forward into the future and anticipate establishing (or reestablishing) various interpersonal relationships as well as reengaging in their local church and community when necessary. The trauma specialist may even walk alongside the survivor as they engage/reengage with God throughout their healing process, gently orienting the counselee or client toward a safe and loving God who longs for their healing.
- When working with abuse perpetrators, trauma specialists work to help their counselees or clients see the issue at hand and the need for personal responsibility and accountability while simultaneously addressing past trauma and ensuring victim safety.

What are common challenges a trauma specialist might face while serving on a shepherding team?

- While some pastors are grateful for the work trauma specialists do with their congregants, others do not understand the process and seem to mistrust the trauma healing work being done. When this happens trauma specialists may also need to function as an advocate for their counselee or client when their pastors have trouble believing them or seem to blame them for the struggles they're facing.
- At times advocates may also try to simultaneously play the role of counselor, which can muddy the water a bit and cause confusion when conflicting counsel is being given. It's critical that various helpers communicate with each other and respect the work each individual brings to the overall team response.
- Limitations of time and capacity to meet the needs observed and heard in counseling.
- Resistance or pushback from church leaders who either do not want to prioritize educating themselves or their congregations on this topic or church leaders who won't make time to meet with counselors and advocates to collaborate and provide the needed support for a victim.
- Pacing - moving too fast or too slow in the intervention process and in how the care/support team seeks to help the victim.

PeaceWorks University Trauma Specific Resources

- PWU Master Class – *Complex Post-Traumatic Stress* with Rachael Rosser
- PWU Master Class – *A Look at ReStoried* with Melissa Affolter
- PWU Toolbox Item – *ReStoried*
- PWU Master Class – *Post Abuse Care* with Jonathan Holmes and Melissa Affolter
- PWU Toolbox Item – *Post Abuse Care*
- PWU Master Class – *Trauma-Informed Abuser Intervention* with Greg Wilson
- PWU Toolbox Item – *Trauma-Informed Abuser Intervention*
- PWU Master Class – *Understanding Trauma* with Eliza Huie
- PWU Toolbox Item – *From Trauma to Peace Info Graphic*

General Shepherding Team Educational & Support Resources

We recommend shepherding team members take advantage of the following educational and ministry support resources as they engage in domestic abuse intervention ministry.

Books

- [*The Heart of Domestic Abuse: Gospel Solutions for Men Who Use Control and Violence in the Home* by Chris Moles](#)
- [*When Home Hurts: A Guide for Responding Wisely to Domestic Abuse in Your Church* by Jeremy Pierre and Greg Wilson](#)
- [*Self-Centered Spouse: Help for Chronically Broken Marriages* by Brad Hambrick](#)
- [*Domestic Abuse: Recognize, Respond, Rescue* by Darby Strickland](#)
- [*Is It Abuse?: A Biblical Guide to Identifying Abuse and Helping Victims* by Darby Strickland](#)
- [*Called to Peace: A Survivor's Guide to Finding Peace and Healing After Domestic Abuse* by Joy Forrest](#)
- [*Is It My Fault?: Hope and Healing for Those Suffering Domestic Violence* by Lindsey and Justin Holcomb](#)
- [*Why Does He Do That?: Inside the Minds of Angry and Controlling Men* by Lundy Bancroft](#)
- [*Coercive Control: How Men Entrap Women in Personal Life* by Evan Stark](#)
- [*The Emotionally Destructive Marriage: How to Find Your Voice and Reclaim Your Hope* by Leslie Vernick](#)

Free E-Books

- [*God's Protection of Women: When Abuse is Worse than Divorce* by Herbert Vander Lugt](#)

Blogs

- [*Is Anxiety Rooted in Trauma?* by Beth Broom](#)
- [*What Makes an Event Traumatizing?* by Beth Broom](#)
- [*How Trauma Affects Us* by Beth Broom](#)
- [*The First Step in Healing from Past Trauma* by Beth Broom](#)
- [*Deep Breathing for Anxiety and Trauma* by Beth Broom](#)
- [*Safety is Essential for Healing* by Beth Broom](#)
- [*What I've Learned from Working with Survivors of Abuse and Trauma* by Melissa Affolter](#)
- [*Domestic Abuse Victims: Sinners or Sufferers?* by Chelsey Gordon](#)
- [*Not as They Seem: Anticipating Deception in Domestic Abuse Cases* by Chelsey Gordon](#)
- [*Why the Gospel is Especially Good News for Domestic Abuse Victims* by Chelsey Gordon](#)

- [*Personal Soul Care for Those in Domestic Abuse Counseling* by Chelsey Gordon](#)
- [*Three Common Mistakes People Helpers Make When Working with Destructive Marriages* by Leslie Vernick](#)
- [*Guide for Men Who Are Serious About Changing \(Part One\)* by Lundy Bancroft](#)
- [*Guide for Men Who Are Serious About Changing \(Part Two\)* by Lundy Bancroft](#)

Training Resources

- [*The Heart of Domestic Abuse: Step by Step Abuser Intervention for Biblical Counselors*](#) - This twelve-unit online course from Chris Moles (based off his book, *The Heart of Domestic Abuse: Gospel Solutions for Men Who Use Control and Violence in the Home* - see above), was created to prepare church leaders and biblical counselors to recognize domestic abuse and respond to abusive men with the help and hope of the gospel. By completing this course, participants will be equipped with the knowledge and skills required to call abusive men to repentance and provide necessary accountability. Please note, this course is already included with each [PeaceWorks University](#) membership (under Core Curriculum) at no additional cost.
- [The House of Peace Virtual Advocacy Training Center](#)
- [Christian Trauma Healing Network](#) - The Christian Trauma Healing Network (CTHN) serves mental health professionals, pastors, and lay ministry leaders to advance Christ-centered trauma healing in the church and society.
- [IBCD Domestic Abuse Observation Videos featuring Chris Moles and Jeremy Pierre](#)
- [Church Cares](#)

Podcasts

- [The PeaceWorks Podcast](#)
- [Relationship Truth: Unfiltered with Leslie Vernick](#)