# SOCIAL ROLE VALORIZATION WORKSHOP Featuring Darcy Elks

# SOCIAL ROLE VALORIZATION - WHAT IS IT?

The theory of <u>Social Role Valorization</u> grew out of what many people know as "normalization." This introductory workshop will present (a) the common life experiences of people who are marginalized and devalued in our society, and (b) strategies to address some of these experiences in order to support people to become valued members of the community.

# THIS WORKSHOP IS DESIGNED TO HELP PARTICIPANTS...

- Reflect on devaluation and how it affects the lives of people who are at risk.
- Learn about the concept of Social Role Valorization, which is an organized way of addressing devaluation (both in one's personal and work life).
- Examine their personal values and commitments to those who are devalued.
- Renew their passionate commitment to marginalized and devalued people.



#### **WORKSHOP LEADER**

The workshop will be presented by **Darcy Elks, M.A.** Darcy has been involved with persons who are societally devalued for many years and has worked throughout the United States, Canada and Australia. She has worked in a variety of human services, conducted many training events, evaluated services, and has been a consultant to programs that are striving for quality. As well, Darcy has been an advocate for persons with disabilities. She is a mother of three children, one of whom has a disability.

## WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

Anyone who seriously desires to gain a deeper understanding of the dynamics and consequences of societal devaluation and desires to work to make life better for such persons, e.g., human service workers, people with disabilities, advocates, and family members.

#### WHEN & WHERE

The workshop will be held June 24-26, 2019 at <u>Nebraska Wesleyan University</u> in Lincoln.

## **REQUIRES FULL PARTICIPATION & ATTENDANCE**

Participants should arrive well-rested and plan to be free of outside commitments for the Social Role Valorization Workshop. If you register to attend, please plan on attending required discussion and work sessions lasting into the evening.

#### REGISTRATION

Cost of workshop attendance is \$250.00 per registrant. Organizations that register four or more individuals will pay a \$225.00 fee per registrant. If you plan on registering four or more individuals to receive the discounted rate, please send your registration by mail. The deadline for registration is June 14, 2019 and attendance is limited to 50 participants.

Individuals who are interested in registering for the workshop can <u>register online</u> or via mail. If you decide to mail your registration, please print and complete our <u>registration form</u> and send it to our Lincoln office along with a check made out to Disability Rights Nebraska. Your place will be reserved at the Social Role Valorization Workshop upon receipt of payment.

# The Value of Social Role Valorization

"Social Role Valorization (SRV) helps us understand how the decisions we make affect the community's perception of people with disabilities. Often well intentioned decisions result in a devaluing of people who experience disability and SRV helps us to understand the decisions we make and the consequences of those decisions, both intentional and unintentional.

While funding systems are generally set up to serve people in groups, SRV helps us to focus on individual valued roles such as employee, volunteer, home owner, etc. These roles help the community to value people who experience disability for the roles that they play.

This is particularly important as the business model continues to evolve and dominate in all aspects of our culture, including human services and education. Region V Services requires our managers to go through Social Role Valorization training because every decision we make has an impact on how people we support are viewed by our communities. Image and competence enhancement are crucial to moving the community from sympathy or empathy to respect for the people we support.

I strongly encourage everyone to participate in this training as it will raise your awareness as you make decisions."

- Dave Merrill, Executive Director of Region V Services

#### QUESTIONS

For more information about the Social Role Valorization Workshop, contact Tess Barnes or John Murphy by email or by phone at 402-474-3183.

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402-474-3183 (in Lincoln) 1-800-422-6691 (outside of Lincoln)