



CANDIDATE FOR BOARD MEMBER

Alyssa A. Rheingold, PhD

Title and Organizational Affiliation: I am a licensed clinical psychologist and tenured Associate Professor at the National Crime Victim's Research and Treatment Center (NCVC) within the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the Medical University of South Carolina.

Education and Employment: I completed my undergraduate coursework in 1996 at the University of Pennsylvania, graduating Cum Laude and with Honors in Psychology and a minor in Religious Studies. I earned my MA and PhD in Clinical Psychology from MCP Hahnemann University (now Drexel University). I completed a pre-doctoral Internship at the Charleston Consortium Psychology Internship Program and a Post-Doctoral Fellowship at the NCVC. I have established myself as an accomplished researcher, clinician, and teacher in the field of traumatic stress over the past 14 years as a faculty member at

the NCVC. I currently serve as the Director of Clinical Operations at the NCVC where I oversee office, community-based, and telehealth trauma service clinics. The combined clinics serve approximately 300 new trauma victims each year. Further, I am the Director of Specialized Services for Survivors of Homicide where we provide support group services, outreach intensive case management, and mental health counseling to family and friends who have lost a loved one to homicide. I have published over 45 peer reviewed articles and book chapters as well as provided over 60 presentations at regional and national conferences in the area of anxiety, trauma, and victimization. My areas of research specialization have included violent loss, intervention outcome research, and child sexual abuse prevention. I actively carry a case load of victims of trauma seeking mental health counseling as well as supervise psychology internship trainees and psychiatry residents in their trauma training experiences. I have received a number of awards including several teaching and mentorship awards through my Department, a Good Citizen Award from the Charleston County Sheriff's Office in 2005, MUSC Foundation Outstanding Clinician Award in 2011, and was recognized as Liza's Lifeline Person of the Year in 2013 for my intervention work with domestic violence victims within South Carolina.

Qualifications Statement: The applied nature of my research and my commitment to providing the highest quality treatment to trauma-exposed individuals has allowed me to seamlessly fund both research and clinical service projects from OVC, CDC, VOCA, VAWA, NIMH, and SAMHSA. My efforts have resulted in the improvement of resources for underserved trauma victims including survivors of homicide and Hispanic interpersonal violence victims. I have developed specialized intensive case management and outreach services for survivors of homicide that have been identified as a model program by the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC). I have served on National Association and Network Committees including National Child Traumatic Stress Network (NCTSN) Child Sexual Abuse- Prevention Sub-Committee, NCTSN Child Sexual Abuse Committee, and the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapy Public Education and Media Dissemination Committee. I have also demonstrated my involvement and dedication to ISTSS, serving on the Community Based Programs Committee, the Cultural, Diversity, Social Issues, and Public Policy Program Committee, Poster Program Committee, and Pre-Meeting Institute Program Committee. I welcome the opportunity to further my involvement in ISTSS by engaging in Board activities. Of note, I have excellent leadership and communication skills, therefore bringing not only my passion and knowledge within the traumatic stress field but also my collegial management style to ISTSS Board of Directors.

Candidacy Statement: I am seeking election to ISTSS Board of Directors because I am truly passionate about figuring out what works, doing what works, and teaching others what work. To this end, I believe it is important as an international organization of professionals invested in caring for those who experience traumatic stress that we work together in continuing to both identify best practices and disseminate these practices into the field. Often there are disconnects between researchers studying effective strategies for helping sufferers of traumatic stress, clinicians working on the front lines of practice, and public consumers of trauma-related treatment information. As both a researcher and practitioner with strong community ties I can understand the numerous challenges from science to clinic and back. One way to address these challenges is to build stronger connections between researchers and practitioners so that we are learning from each other and establishing partnerships. This could be accomplished through more occasions for open dialogue, expansion of interprofessional work, global initiatives to

learn from researchers and practitioners across countries, and community engaged participatory research strategies. Further, creating opportunities to examine strategies that may be “outside the box” in improving services and access to care with the end result of ensuring that no victim “slips through the cracks” in receiving evidence-based clinical practice. I am truly excited to bring my versatility in research and clinical arenas to create an environment within ISTSS that improves services for victims and survivors. Thank you for your consideration.