

**Volunteers of America Oregon  
Men's Residential Center**



**Presents the Al Forthan Memorial Recovery Scholarship  
Training Series**

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**Featuring:** Matt Modrcin, Ph.D.

**When:** Thursday, April 8, 2010  
8:30am to 1:00pm (Check-in 8:00 to 8:30am)

**Where:** Westminster Presbyterian Church  
1624 NE Hancock Street, Portland OR 97212

**Why:** Fundraiser for the Al Forthan Memorial Recovery Scholarship

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**Title: Working With Resistance in Group Psychotherapy: A Relational Perspective**

**Purpose:** This workshop will focus on the possibility of change that group therapy offers through a relational experience with others in a supportive and reflective environment. People who participate in group therapy often experience themselves and respond in familiar ways when interacting with others in a group context. This experience pulls forth for the participant's patterns of interaction that either enhances their ability to change or they respond in a manner that limits growth and intimacy in their lives. Responses that limit their capacity for intimacy are often understood as the resistance's that are employed by the self when experiencing a sense of threat, anxiety, or something that is familiar. Resistances can emerge for a variety of reasons for both the individual and for the group as a whole. This workshop will focus on developing a framework for understanding and working with resistance in a group setting. Intervention strategies will be presented to work with resistances at both the individual and group level. An opportunity to explore ethical issues related to informed consent, confidentiality, and multiple roles will be made available during the course of the workshop. Intervention strategies will be explored and articulated.

Participants should approach the workshop from a training and experiential perspective. Bring case examples and be prepared to participate in a dialogue focused on clinical group practice.

**Workshop Leader:** Matt Modrcin, Ph.D., is a licensed clinical social worker with over 30 years of experience. He is an experienced group facilitator, trainer, clinical supervisor, and teacher. He has conducted therapy groups in a variety of settings and currently teaches a course on Clinical Social Work with Groups in the Graduate School of Social Work at Portland State University. He specializes in family and couples therapy and has maintained a clinical practice in the Portland community for the past 20 years.

Matt is generously donating his services and expertise. All proceeds raised will go directly to the scholarship fund.

Money raised from this training will go to support the Al Forthan Memorial Recovery Scholarship.

The purpose of the scholarship is to honor Al, encourage students to explore how addiction has impacted our community, and to think about solutions to this complex problem. Al was the first alumnus to work at the MRC. He worked from his heart and brought love, wisdom, integrity, humility, and a deep passion and commitment to recovery. Al touched the lives of hundreds of men and was the ultimate role model of recovery.



Eight scholarships will be awarded in 2010, one specifically to a senior from Jefferson (Al's alma mater), Benson, Franklin, Madison, Marshall and Roosevelt High Schools. One scholarship will be available to students from other Portland Public High Schools. The final scholarship will be open to students from addicted families all over Multnomah County. The amount for that scholarship is \$2,500. The other scholarship amounts are \$1,000 each and are awarded based on essay responses.

*Cost: \$50  
Will Include 4 CEUs  
pending from ACCBO as  
well as Drinks and  
Snacks*

**Any Questions:**  
Call or Email Julia Peters  
at (503) 802- 0299  
or [jpeters@voaor.org](mailto:jpeters@voaor.org)

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**Registration Information:**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

ORGANIZATION: \_\_\_\_\_

**Amount Enclosed:** \_\_\_\_\_

Make Checks Payable to  
Volunteers of America

In Memo Section Note "For Al's Scholarship"

**MAIL TO: Volunteers of America – MRC  
2318 NE MLK Jr. Blvd.  
Portland, OR 97212  
Attn: Julia Peters**