

## 1 in 6 males are survivors of sexual abuse... a silent epidemic that can no longer be ignored.

MaleSurvivor provides critical resources to male survivors of sexual trauma and all their partners in recovery by building communities of Hope, Healing and Support. Founded in 1994, MaleSurvivor is a unique community of survivors and the professionals across multiple disciplines working together to raise awareness and foster healing change.

## Resources, Trainings, and Presentations from MaleSurvivor

**Website** - Every year, over 400,000 visitors from over 150 countries visit <u>www.malesurvivor.org</u>. Resources on the website include:

- <u>Resource Directories</u> We offer free listing directories
  for therapists and survivor support groups. We also have
  listings resources for sexual abuse survivors in every
  state, and are currently working to include an
  international resource directory.
- <u>Discussion Forums</u> A moderated online community of healing where survivors and their loved ones can get support and information in a safe environment.
- Information for Survivors, Parents, and Professionals –
   Articles, essays, and a wealth of information to help people better understand the dynamics of healing.

Weekends of Recovery – Since 2001, over 1000 survivors have attended a MaleSurvivor Weekend of Recovery. Staffed by expert facilitators, each weekend is a unique healing experience where survivors come together, often for the first time in their lives, to get support and expert advice for their healing journeys. Currently we offer 6 Weekends in locations all over North America every year.

## Facts about sexual abuse of males:

- \* Research indicates that 17% of men have been directly victimized sexually by age 16 (one in six), while another 14% reported indirect sexual abuse (a total of one in four).
- \* Abused boys and men typically do not report their molestations because of deep shame, guilt, and the false ideal of male imperviousness.
- \* On average, a male survivor will take **20 years** until they disclose and begin to heal.
- \* Survivors are at higher risk for clinical depression, anxiety disorders, PTSD, and such self-destructive behaviors as substance abuse and sexual compulsions.
- \* Prevailing myths about sexually abused boys also interfere with recognizing and treating the problem, especially the misconception that they become perpetrators of abuse. The vast majority of abused boys **never** become sexual offenders.



## 2014 Weekends of Recovery Schedule

3/28 - 3/30/14 Level 1 Sequoia, Ben Lomond, CA

5/02 - 5/04/14 Level 1 The Mountain, Highland, NC

7/11 - 7/13/14 Level 1 Guest House, Chester, CT

8/15 - 8/18/14 Advanced WoR Relationship & Intimacy Theme (spouses/partners welcome) Alta Lodge, Alta, UT

<u>9/19 - 9/21/14 Level 1</u> Alta Lodge, Alta, UT

<u>10/17 - 10/1914 Level 1</u> Hope Springs, Peebles, OH

"It was such a milestone experience in my life where I felt, perhaps for the first time, that I have a possibility of a new chance at life. I experienced myself in a clear conscious way, as a one integrated person for the first time in my life; and even though this feeling didn't last, it created the possibility that I can reproduce that moment. I hope I can live this way one day."

--- quote from a recent Weekend of Recovery attendee <u>Trainings</u> - MaleSurvivor Professional Trainings provide guidance on best practices for identifying, connecting with, and supporting male survivors. Training programs effectively combine the expertise of professionals with the experiences of survivors. We also offer a 6 hour course that qualifies for Continuning Educational credits for some professionals.\* Recently we have conducted trainings at Penn State for counseling staff at all 19 campuses as well as at conferences and other events all over the country.

<u>Dare to Dream</u> - At Dare to Dream events we partner with local advocacy groups (such as rape crisis centers and groups to combat sexual abuse) to bring the message of hope, healing, and support to college campuses and communities all across North America. Hundreds of people have attended recent Dare to Dream events in Los Angeles, Princeton University, and the University of Michigan to name a few.

International Conference Our conference is the oldest and largest professional conference\* in the world with a sole focus on male sexual victimization. In November 2012, over 350 professionals, students, and survivors from 20 countries attended MaleSurvivor's 13<sup>th</sup> International Conference at John Jay College in New York City. We will be holding our 14<sup>th</sup> Conference Oct 31-Nov 2, 2014 in Newark, NJ. This year's conference theme is:

**Evolution: From Hurting to Healing** 

Please contact Community Outreach Director Trisha Massa at <a href="massa@malesurvior.org">tmassa@malesurvior.org</a> or Executive Director Christopher Anderson at <a href="mailesurvivor.org">canderson@malesurvivor.org</a> today if you would like more information on MaleSurvivor and any of our programs.

<sup>\*</sup> CE's are offered in partnership with the Institute on Violence, Abuse, and Trauma. For more information on training programs please contact Trisha Massa.