

# **Gender Matters:**

## **Creating Services for Women and Girls**

### **Overview**

We often hear the term gender-responsive used in relation to substance misuse, mental health, and trauma treatment for women. But what does it actually mean and what does it actually look like? These are some of the underlying questions motivating the lifelong work of Dr. Covington, a pioneer in the development of gender-responsive treatment programs curricula. This presentation focuses on the process of trauma across the female lifespan and the need for gender-responsive and trauma-informed services. It also provides research-based resources for women's and girls' services.

### **Topics**

- History of women's treatment
- Elements of gender-responsive services
- Core values of trauma-informed services
- ACE study
- Intervention strategies

### **Objectives**

- Define trauma-informed and gender-responsive
- Describe the process of trauma (including shame, stigma, acting out, and retraumatization)
- Delineate age differences
- Compare/contrast trauma processing in correctional versus community settings
- Describe research-based resource material for gender-responsive and trauma-informed services