

FAQ ABOUT PARTNER, FAMILY, FRIENDS WEEKEND OF RECOVERY

If you have a question that is not addressed here, please [contact us](#) and we'll try to help.

Who qualifies As a Partner, Family member, or Friend of a male survivor/s?

If you are a partner, friend, or family member (parent/child/sibling, cousin, etc) of a man (or men) who has experienced sexual victimization during childhood, as an adult, or both. They may have experienced a single incident of sexual victimization or multiple incidents over time and perhaps with more than one offender. They may have been violated by a male offender, some by a female offender, and some by both.

We honor and respect the spectrum of sexual and gender identities; any partner, friend, or family member who has a survivor who is male identified in their life is welcome. Respect for diversity is a foundation for our events. Read more about our approach to diversity.

What Happens At A Typical Virtual WOR?

Virtual WORs have a structured agenda that is available for your review at the link provided [here](#). You will be able to check in beginning the morning of the event. The weekend agenda is comprised of a variety of large group activities, mixed with small group sessions and time for breaks and networking with other participants.

Although we encourage active participation in WOR events, activities are structured to allow you to pace the level of your involvement. Confidentiality and safety are cornerstones for our time together. WORs are highly effective in lessening feelings of isolation and creating opportunities for engagement and community. We also include break time to provide opportunities for you to network with other participants.

What Are The Requirements To Attend A WOR?

WOR events are open to any partner (spouse), friend, or family member (parent, child, sibling, cousin, etc) who is 18 years or older, of a man (or men) who has experienced sexual victimization during childhood, as an adult, or both.

Each event has a different composition of ages, relationships, and life experience, diversity of life provides for a dynamic experience and offers opportunities for mutual learning and support.

Are The WOR Staff Qualified To Help Me?

The WOR Facilitator Team is comprised of highly skilled clinicians, a mixture of mental health practitioners and somatic body educators. WOR events do not constitute psychotherapy and serve only as an adjunctive healing resource. However, to maintain the highest level of ethical competency, each Facilitator must maintain active licensure or certification in their respective professional field. Many Facilitators have extensive years of experience working with male survivors and their loved ones and are nationally recognized. A significant number of our Facilitators have worked together with the WOR program for many years.

We have a diversity of staff that include males and females on our Facilitator Team, as we have found this gender diversity is additive to the dynamics of leadership for these healing retreats.

Will I Be Safe?

Safety is a very personal consideration. We avoid making assumptions about individual and shared safety needs. Early during each event, facilitators guide participants through an interactive exercise to identify factors that can help you to feel safe enough. While common safety needs emerge, this process allows an opportunity for you to contribute any unique concerns. We seek to recognize and respect your individual safety needs while engaging you in collaboration to establish the safety guidelines for the community of participants with whom you will share the Weekend of Recovery.

Is Participating in a Virtual WOR Safe?

We have the expectation that all participants are in safe physical space for the duration of this event. This includes accessing on-line sessions in a space that is confidential. In addition the online event is conducted on a confidential encrypted zoom platform.

Can I Bring Anyone With Me?

Virtual WOR events are structured for the needs of the individual who is attending. If you have a friend or family member who is also a partner, friend, or family member of a male survivor, it may be appropriate for them to attend the same event as you, so long as they go through the same application process and are also fully participating for themselves.

This event is intended for you to attend separately from your male survivor loved one. If your loved one has not already a WOR you may want to encourage them to check out the information [here](#). In addition Advanced WORs are conducted that include Partners, Family, and Friends attending with their male survivor loved one

Do I Deserve To Have a Healing Event Seperate from my Male Survivor Loved one?

Partners, Family, and Friends are often unable to find resources for themselves. We believe that Partners, Family, Friends deserve resources for their own healing.

Alumni of previous Partner, Family, or Friend WOR report the experience contributed to easing their suffering to facilitating healthier relationships with their male survivor loved one to inspiring activism and to improving their family relationships.

Do I Need To Be In Therapy Before I Can Attend A WOR?

We understand that you have a wide range of access to healing resources. Some participants have engaged in a variety of opportunities for healing before attending a WOR. Others have been unable to access any supportive services so attending a WOR may be their first experience of a healing resource. WOR retreats provide an adjunctive resource for healing. This workshop is not intended as therapy, but rather is complementary and adjunctive to other therapeutic resources you may have already accessed.

Prior engagement with some aspect of healing (therapy, 12-step activities, support group, on-line networking, etc.) is usually beneficial before attending a WOR event; however, not a requirement. A pre-event Interview is required of all registrants before official acceptance to attend a WOR. This interview is conducted by a member of the Facilitator Team and allows an opportunity to evaluate whether the event is appropriate for your needs, timing, and present circumstance.

I Am Concerned That I Am Different Than Others; Will I Be Accepted?

Respect for diversity is a foundation for our events. We seek to include partners, friends, and family members of any age (18 and above), racial identity, ethnic heritage, religious or spiritual affiliation, ideological belief, sexual or gender uniqueness, class or economic status, educational level, employment, or physical abilities. If your diversity is not included in this list, we welcome your inquiry to help us evaluate ways to expand our capacity to incorporate your concerns.

We seek to provide individual accommodation to as many special needs requests as may be a factor in your participating in a virtual event such as this. We believe that diversity contributes to a dynamic healing environment and allows opportunities to learn from others who may experience the world differently than yourself.

What If I Am Unable To Afford A WOR?

We request that you evaluate your financial ability to pay up to the full cost of the registration fee. However, We seek for WOR events to be accessible to anyone no matter their financial resources. To that end, upon application for financial assistance, we provide generous grants up to a maximum of 80% of the registration fee.

We also welcome charitable donations that help us to sustain the operation of our organization and to maintain a robust Financial Assistance Fund. We have many examples of participants who needed our financial support to attend a WOR but later were able to offer a financial gift from themselves or a friend, family member, co-worker, or business entity.

What About Confidentiality?

Confidentiality is a cornerstone of each WOR. The Facilitator Team is committed to protecting your confidentiality. Safety guidelines that are co-created during each WOR event have the intended purpose to support your needs for privacy as well as degrees of disclosure. Establishing and honoring boundaries is an essential component of a healthy healing environment, so we will engage you to work together with other members of your WOR community to manage confidentiality.

How Do I Manage My Anxieties and Fears about Attending a WOR?

Perhaps reviewing the preceding questions and answers is providing some degree of reassurance. Consider reviewing the events section of the website to gather more information about the WORs. If you have a Therapist or some other professional caregiver, discuss with them whatever concerns will relieve your anxieties and fears. If you have specific questions or concerns, send us an inquiry.