

EVALUATION IN SOCIAL WORK

International Training Seminar

Malosco (Tn), July 20th-23rd, 2026



FOCUS

Current approaches, methods, and challenges in evaluating social work practice and services are the focus of this advanced training seminar. Through interactive sessions and case-based discussions, participants from different regions will deepen their understanding of evidence-informed evaluation and strengthen their capacity to assess outcomes, improve interventions, and support decision-making in diverse social contexts.

LEARNING OBJECTIVE

- By end of training, participants will:
- Understand importance of evaluation and different evaluation designs;
 - Develop an evaluation plan for a project they can conduct at their agency;
 - Anticipate challenges and have ideas for problem-solving in evaluation.

TARGET AUDIENCE

Researchers and academics interested in deepening their understanding of different approaches and social service professionals who want to evaluate some component of their work, but need guidance on getting started. The workshop will provide an overview of evaluation designs and concepts as well as focused time for attendees to develop an evaluation plan and present it to receive additional feedback for improvement.

MAIN TOPICS

- Day 1:** *Overview and introduction of concepts* (Why Evaluation matters, How evaluation can improve practice; Evaluation models and frameworks/ theory); *Brainstorm Data sources and their Pros/Cons* (Administrative data, Satisfaction/opinion data; Clinical data; Finance data); *Evaluation designs* (Cross-sectional, Intervention: Post-test only; pre-post; random assignment; Longitudinal models; Qualitative approaches; Community-based participatory approaches), *Ethics*
- Day 2:** *Designing an evaluation* (Developing a research question; Identifying the data source and sample; Data collection/extraction; Data analysis; Presenting findings; Making meaning to improve practice). *Open Work Time*
- Day 3:** Presentations of *proposed evaluations* and feedback; Anticipating *challenges* and how to overcome; Planning for *next steps* and *implementation*.
The seminar will be held in English

Coordinator

Bethany R. Lee, PhD MSW, Full Professor, University of Maryland, USA. She is the inaugural Barth Professor of Children's Services. She has been on the faculty at the University of Maryland School of Social Work since 2007. Her research interests focus on the intersection of child welfare and child mental health services, especially issues of quality of care and evaluation of effective interventions. She is Editor of the journal "Residential Treatment for Children & Youth".

Information

Fee for the international training seminar:

- *Early bird* (by March 13th, 2026): €700 excl. 22% VAT;
- *Standard* (after March 13th, 2026): €840 excl. 22% VAT.

The fee includes: *Training materials*; *Accommodation*: stay at the Study Center in rooms with private bathrooms; *Food & Drink*: all meals (breakfast, lunch, dinner) and coffee breaks are included; *City tax*; Transfers to/from the Trento train station.

For more information:

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Sala plenaria



Sala lettura



Wi Fi gratuito



Stanze attrezzate



Ascensore



Parcheggio

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