

Green Cross Academy of Traumatology

SUMMER NEWSLETTER

Vol 7. Is 3



FMHCA 2023 Annual Conference

GCAT Proudly supports Florida Mental Health Counselors Association (FMHCA) Annual Conference on February 3rd - 4th 2023 in Lake Mary, FL. The conference this year was exceptionally wonderful. Don't miss next year FMHCA 2024



GCAT Annual Conference June 2023

The GCAT Annual Conference was VIRTUAL! An interesting fact is that it was recorded and it will soon be made available.



International Critical Incident Stress foundation (ICISF) 2023 Annual Conference

The ICISF Annual Conference this year was in Baltimore, Maryland and GCAT was present.

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Director's Corner

Dear Members and Friends of Green Cross Academy of Traumatology,

I really can't believe it is already time to write one of these articles. Time seems to slip away so quickly. I remember days of being in Grad School watching the clock and thinking how many years it took to graduate high school, with the feeling that it will take 'forever' to be able to get through and finish. Today I look at the clock and fear that there is such little time to get everything done, and how much faster that clock seems to move. The last time I wrote, I was excited to be going with the Trauma team here at Divine Mercy University from the Center of Trauma and Resiliency Studies; to be going with students to visit Rome and to deal with the theme of Sexual Trauma. This was not so much a deployment as it was educational and to be completely honest, mostly as a Tourist. We attended lectures at the Gregorian Pontifical University and exchanged materials and presentations on Complex Trauma. Personally, I thought the exchange was highly productive and that students and faculty alike benefited greatly. If you have not been to Rome, you are missing an amazing experience. The Architecture, Arts, History, and Italian food will have me daydreaming for the next 10 years.

At the close of our 6 days trip, I deployed to Turkey along with Ms. Detti Balla who is a Green Cross member currently living in the United Kingdom, with specialties in First Response and Rapid Response.

Our sponsor was Pastor Ozgur Allison who pastors a church in Adana - Turkey and brought together a group of volunteers that had been doing outreach in bringing tarps to help protect houses from rain and food to the people of Antioch. Upon arrival, we immediately set out to offer training in Compassion Fatigue and Field Trauma for the volunteers and two days later we were off to Antioch. We flew most of the way there but had to drive Two-and-a-half hours since none of the airports were functional in or around the city of Antioch. I would like to report that the entire city was laid waste! That is, every building in the entire city was either demolished or cracked and would eventually be torn down and removed.

Director's Corner

I remember stopping at a site that had business buildings collapse and destroyed with no people inside, houses in ruin, and such desolation and quiet, which was so scary. Nothing but ruins all around. After a while, two men stopped and got out of their car, one quietly crying. I introduced myself and we spoke briefly about the fact that he had lost everything; his home, his business, his livelihood gone. We continued to talk and I was pleased that he had family and friends that he was currently staying with and that business had been good enough that he will be able to for a while take care of his family. He hopes to rebuild as do most of those I met in my brief time in Antioch. I do not remember ever feeling such devastation and loss, just standing there and looking around at the destruction of this Turkish city.

We then drove to a displacement camp where I was able to meet with the Medical Director of Samaritans Purse and the Department of Behavioral Health monitored by the Government of Turkey. While they were pleased to hear of the interest, they were disappointed that I did not speak the Turkish language which became a problem later on. Both Detti and I could see the need but we were being told that the government was pulling back and scaling down. We continued talking with key organizations in Antioch and headed back towards the airport to be ready to return in the morning. After spending another day in Adana, we then returned to our respective countries. Detti's assessment identified tremendous needs and we discussed ways of training indigenous volunteers on the ground along with Deployment from Green Cross, especially helping those families and individuals who refused to go to a displacement camp choosing to use their backyard as a campground in order to protect their property and belongings. Shortly after arriving back in the United States, I had the occasion to speak with Orguz to find out that we had been asked to stand down due to a lack of being able to speak Turkish as translators will be rare and make the process more difficult in their opinion. As a result, we informed our volunteers from GCAT of the situation and took a stand-down position by making our activation null.



Director's Corner

I have since been in touch with Orgur a couple of times to be able to complete the Disaster Trauma course for them in order to have the information for fieldwork. Due to our schedules, we have just not been able to do this by Zoom but more on that in the next version of the Director's Corner.

Over the past few months, there have been tornadoes throughout the mid-section of the country but I understand that in most cases it was the local First Response groups that attended despite serious loss of property. Two weeks ago we had our annual conference where we featured first responders, in particular Police, who shared about practices with both natural disasters and Terrorist acts. There was material presented at the January 6 political event in Washington DC in which Arlington Police served to back up and support the police force in Washington. We also heard a presentation on the tremendous increase in suicide regarding First Responders and efforts to work with and decrease those numbers in the future. We definitely want to give a shout-out to the speakers' Captain David Giroux, Dr. David Baker, Mr. Don Fortunato, Mrs. Corinna Arndt, Mr. Nathan Ray, Mrs. Diane McKeyhan, Dr. Rachel Drosdick-Sigafoos, Mr. Adam Stone, Dr. Kathie Erwin, and myself. Board members and volunteers filled out the remaining slots other than our guests. Unfortunately, attendance was very light but the presentations were first-class. We all owe a debt of gratitude to our guests and to those who continue to support the process. I want to also thank Marion Moreland and Anne Marie Salvanaro who labored all year to make the conference come together and be a real benefit to GCAT. They have continually together and separately stepped up to help when asked to help support our efforts in making Green Cross a go-to organization when dealing with issues of trauma. I understand that recordings will be available of the entire conference or individual plenaries and workshops. Stay tuned for an email blast letting you know when they are ready along with cost.



Director's Corner

Over the past few months, there have been tornadoes throughout the midsection of the country but I understand that in most cases it was the local First Response groups that attended despite serious loss of property. Two weeks ago we had our annual conference where we featured first responders, in particular the Police, who shared about practices with both natural disasters and Terrorist acts. There was material presented at the January 6 political event in Washington DC in which Arlington Police served to back up and support the police force in Washington. We also heard a presentation on the tremendous increase in suicide regarding First Responders and efforts to work with and decrease those numbers in the future.

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Director's Corner

Currently, I am looking forward to the Center for Trauma and Resiliency Studies deployment to Romania. We do this every year where we immerse in a culture where there is a lot of trauma and we support students who are working towards Masters and Doctoral degrees in counseling and Psychology as a way of also completing the requirements of 100 hours of direct work with trauma clients and a minimum of 20 hours of supervision, for the Certified Clinical Traumatologist Certification. We also offer Licensed Clinicians in the community to join us for the experience and to complete those requirements. Last year we were in Tanzania, working with organizations relating to Human Trafficking; the year before in Mexico working with refugees from Central and South America in government oppressions and drug cartels. This year in Romania we will work with the elderly. Gypsy camps 'Roma/ and Ukrainian refugees. We hope to go to Kenya next year though we have had several other requests which we are currently sorting through. We have also been asked to return to Cameroon which is being plan for the Fall of 2023. Lastly, I would like to encourage all of our training sites to share what kinds of things you are doing, what training you are offering to the public in your area, and what exciting things are being offered through your training site. Many of us are doing amazing things and we would like the rest of the organization to hear about them. Until next time I wish all of you blessings and a wonderful summer.

Blessings

Ben

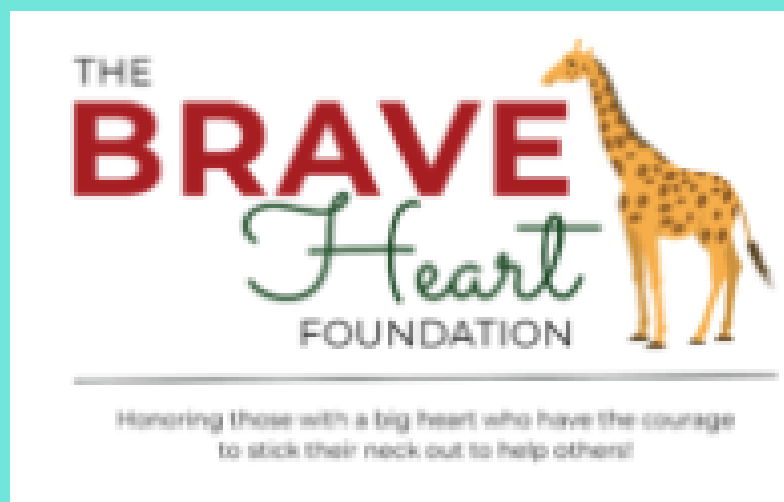
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The Brave Heart Foundation

The Green Cross Academy of Traumatology is very grateful for the continuous support it has received from the Brave Heart Foundation. Once again this dynamic organization has awarded \$5,000 grant for 2022 to assist the Green Cross Academy of Traumatology with its future deployments for traumatized populations. Learn more about the great work the Brave Heart Foundation is doing in the world through the link below.

<https://www.thebraveheartfoundation.com/>

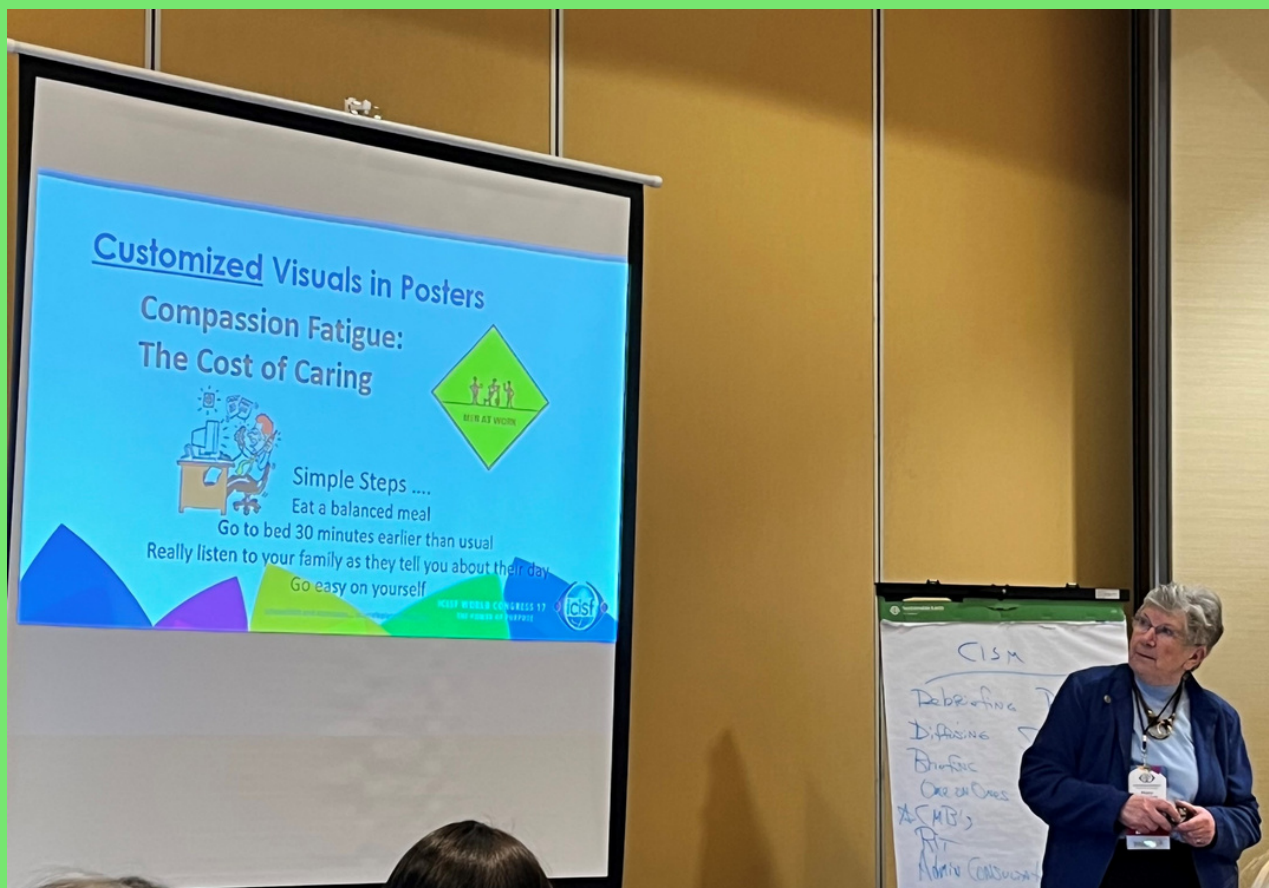




Thanks to our Keynote speakers from Arlington County Police Department and the other presenters for sharing their knowledge and expertise during the GCAT 2023 Virtual Annual Conference.

More information on how to access the various presentations will be sent out later.

International Critical Incident Stress Foundation, Inc.



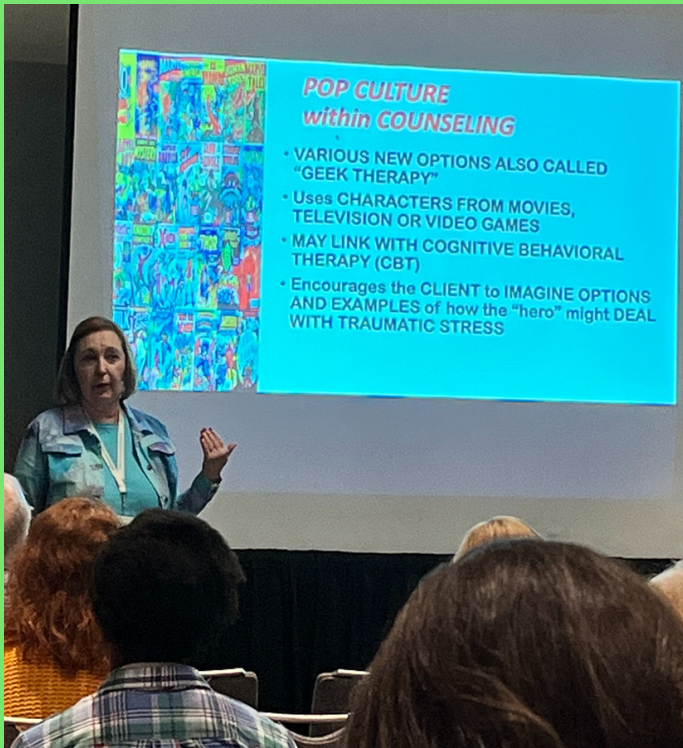
Dr. Mary Schoenfeldt (President of GCAT), gave a presentation on Compassion Fatigue during the ICISF conference in April, 2023.

FLORIDA MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELORS ASSOCIATION 2023 (FMHCA)

A cross-section of GCAT members present at the FMHCA 2023 Annual conference in Lake Mary, Florida.



FMHCA 2023 Workshop training



Dr. Kathie Erwin and Kelly Erwin (FT) conducting a workshop training on "Kintsugi to Super Heroes: Therapeutic Metaphors for Trauma Counseling."



INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF EMERGENCY MANAGERS (IAEM)

GCAT was actively involved and present at the IAEM Annual Conference in Savannah, Georgia from Nov. 13th - 17th, 2022. GCAT was able to provide Compassion Fatigue services and other therapeutic services to those who were present at the conference.

Below are some pictures of the GCAT members present at the event.



ARTICLES

Have you been reading any of our articles?

If not, you need to check out our website to read more. Also, check us out in other journals such as the Journal of Counseling & Development, July 2017 volume 95. You can also visit the Domestic Preparedness website through the link below to learn more about how effective our services and methods.

<https://www.domesticpreparedness.com/healthcare/wanted-mental-health-support-for-disaster-trauma/>

Visit one of our member's websites below and read more about some of the life-changing services we are providing all over the world.

<https://alinagarbuz.com/2022/04/10/like-a-refugee-from-a-civil-war-in-cameroon-to-the-invasion-in-ukraine-to-the-home-inside-the-human-heart/>

We would love to read and share your stories in our next newsletter and on our website about the work and experiences you have had with us through any of our deployments or workshop training in other parts of the world.

Send us an email: gcatofficemanager@gmail.com



GCAT Committees are open to all members.

GCAT Committees

We are always in the process of making changes that will allow more participation of ALL members knowing that deployments are not always possible for everyone. In order to facilitate this, we established the following committees:

- **Deployment Committee**
- **Fundraising Committee**
- **Social Media Committee**
- **Liaison Committee**
- **Conference Committee**



All members are encouraged to join. We are not limited to these and are always open to input from you. Do you have IT skills, writing skills, grant experience, etc.? Please consider helping GCAT in those areas. GCAT relies on our membership to be available in times of crisis but also to help spread the word about the work that we do.



GCAT Online Training

DISCLAIMER

All the courses currently on the Green Cross Academy of Traumatology website (www.greencross.org/training-CE) were filmed at Regent University, VA (Former site location - a Christian Institution). The policy required that the courses begin with a prayer and include spiritual dialogue. The courses on our website currently come from the Center for Trauma and Resiliency Studies. As other sites create new training videos, we will make them available on the GCAT website. Thank you for choosing Green Cross Academy of Traumatology for your training and certifications.

Check our website (<https://greencross.org/training-ce/>) for more information on all our various sites and their training schedule/prices.



GREEN CROSS ACADEMY OF TRAUMATOLOGISTS

We are international...

TRAINING, TRAINING, TRAINING!



Africa



Caribbean Island



North America



South America

Sites in Africa

We currently have one site in *Yaoundé - Cameroon (Me4Real International)*, that was created in *2020*. We are looking at the prospects of having more sites coming up within the next few years in some other countries in Africa.

Sites in the Caribbean Island

We currently have a site in *Puerto Rico* that was created in *2017 (Psychopathology Institute)* and another in *Trinidad and Tobago*, established in *2015*. These sites are growing due to the high need of services in this part of the world.

Sites in North America and Canada

There are several sites in North America where the headquarter for Green Cross is located. There are *15 sites in North America and 1 in Canada (Traumatology Institute established in 2015)*. We are anticipating more sites will be coming up soon.

Our site in Mexico (Asociación Mexicana Para Ayuda Mental en Crisis) is growing steadily and was established in 2013. There is a high need for Certified traumatologists in this country.

ASIA in the Future...

As our numbers of membership continues to grow, so too is the need for our services all over the world. Our members in Asia (*Philippines*) are working towards establishing a site in the near future. Be on the watch for this new extension of services and activities in this continent.



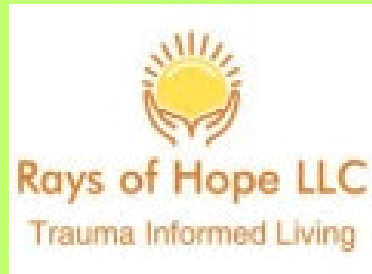
GCAT SITES

College of Clinical Care (within the 'Trauma-Informed Resiliency Academy')



Director: Xavier Justice
Address: 3420 Stanton Road SE, #303
 Washington DC 20020
Phone Number: (210) 236-1628
Email: Xavier Justice -
xavierjustice@gmail.com
Website:
<https://www.traumainformedresiliencyacademy.com>

Rays of Hope Academy of Traumatology



Address:
 3405 172nd St. NE, Suite 5-27
 Arlington, Washington 98223
Contact: Nathan Ray
Email: nathan@raysofhopellc.org
Phone Number: 206-793-8506
Website:
<http://www.raysofhopellc.org/>

College of St. Joseph



Address:
 Office 216, St. Joseph Hall
 71 Clement Road
 Rutland, VT 05701
Contact: Dr. Robert Walsh
Email:
dr.robertwalsh64@gmail.com
Phone Number:
 (802)236-9154

Center of Occupational Phenomena and Traumatic Stress Studies (COPTSS) University of the Cumberlands



Address:
 University of the Cumberlands
 6162 College Station Drive
 Williamsburg, Kentucky 40769
Site Director: Dr. Sherry Todd

Academy for Trauma Studies and Disaster Response



Director: Dr. Alina Garbuz
Address:
 Beautiful Minds Project Inc
 Colorado Springs, Colorado 80924
To register:
Phone: 413-454-7398
Email: hello@alinagarbuz.com



Address:

New Vita Academy of Traumatology 101
N. Lynnhaven Rd, Suite 200 Virginia
Beach, Virginia

Director:

Dr. Sherry Todd
<sherrymtodd.phd@gmail.com>
Ron Riffle nvnron@gmail.com

Website:

<http://newvitaneurotherapy.com/>



Address:

Global Trauma Education Center
(Formerly Tampa Trauma Education
Center)

Tampa/St. Petersburg

Director: Dr. Kathie Erwin

Email: kerwin@divinemeracy.edu

Website:

<http://globaltraumaeducationcenter.org>



Address:

Woodbrook Pentecostal Church
53 Gallus Street
Woodbrook

Contact:

Lemuel Williams

Email: [<greencrosstt@gmail.com>](mailto:greencrosstt@gmail.com)
1.347.322.8741



Traumatic Incident Reduction Training
(TIR) Workshops

Location:

4343 West Flagler St., Suite 503
Miami, FL 33134

Website:

<https://www.traumaresolutioncenter.net/>

Email: info@thetrcenter.org

Contact Person: Ms. Yohana Casali
(interim executive director)

ycasali@thetrcenter.org

Millie Maldonado

millie@thetrcenter.org

Richmond, Virginia

**RVA Institute of
Traumatology**

Director: Cheryl St. Denis

Email: Cstdppl@gmail.com

Minnesota, USA

**Upper Midwest
Traumatology
Training Institute
(UMTTI)**

Address:

11959 77thSt.
Clear Lake MN 55319

Website: [www.jec-](http://www.jec-counseling.com)

[counseling.com](http://www.jec-counseling.com) **Director:** Dr.
Daniel Casey

Email: dlcasey@frontiernet.net



Toronto, Canada

Traumatology Institute

Address: Traumatology Institute (Canada)
703 - 4789 Yonge Street
Toronto ON M2N 0G3
Canada

Director: Dr. Anna B. Baranowsky, CEO
Phone: 416 -733-3838
Fax: 416 -733- 8998
Email: Learn@Psychink.Com
Website: <https://Psychink.Com/>

Rocky Mountain Traumatology Institute

Address: 1235 Lake Plaza Dr., Suite
125 Colorado Springs, CO 80906
(719) 482-6978

Director: Dr. Jay Martin, D.Min., LMFT,
CT, CFT

Email: jaymartinco@gmail.com

Coordinator: Dr. Thomas Doroff. Ph.D.,
LPC, Professor

Address: Regis University Division of
Counseling & Family Therapy
500 E. 84th Ave, Suite B-12
Thornton, CO 80229
(303) 625-1242

Email: tionnema@regis.edu

Website: <http://www.regis.edu/>

Asociación Mexicana Para Ayuda Mental en Crisis

MEXICO

Director: Dr. Ignacio Jarero

Email: nacho@amamecrisis.com.mx

Website:

<https://www.scalingupemdr.com/assyst-remote-online-training>



MTS Green Cross (Moody Bible Institute)

Address :
860 N Lasalle BLVD
Chicago , Illinois, 60610

Phone Number:

312-329-2870

Email:
mtscounselingcenter@moody.edu



Fairmont, West Virginia

Appalachian Trauma and Resiliency Center

Director: Dr. Jude Black

Address:
207 Fairmont Avenue, Fairmont, WV
26554

Email: drjude@wvcounseling.com

Website: <https://www.wvcounseling.com/>

Phone: 681-404-6869

Center for Trauma and Resiliency Studies



Address:
45154 Underwood Lane
Sterling, VA, 20166

Website:
<https://divinemeracy.edu/academics/ctr/s/>

Contact: Dr. Benjamin Keyes

**Address:**

515 E. Crossville Road
Bldg 100, Ste 140
Roswell, GA 30075

Email: info@resiliencesource.com

Phone: 770.299.9410

Website: www.resiliencesource.com

Director: Dr. Vanessa Snyder

Personal email: vanessa@resiliencesource.com

Puerto Rico



IPTPR

Instituto de PsicoTraumatología de Puerto Rico

Address:

#84-11, Calle 70, Urb. Sierra Bayamón,
Bayamón, Puerto Rico 00961
787-370-4478

For more information

Visit: <https://www.ipt-pr.org/>

or

Email: registrador@ipt-pr.org



Me4Real International Yaounde, Cameroon

Contact: Delphine Fanfon

Email: me4realinternational@gmail.com

Office Coordinator: Priscille Djimpe

Email: priscilledjimpe@gmail.com

Facebook Page: Me4Real International

GCAT Gallery

GCAT GALLERY OVER THE YEARS



Green Cross Academy of Traumatology
at the FMHCA 2022 conference.



Green Cross in Puerto Rico,
2019



Virgin Islands, 2018 workshop



Green Cross Training,
Cameroon 2022



Lebanon, 2017 workshop

Training in Kenya 2019



GCAT Gallery

GCAT GALLERY OVER THE YEARS



Green Cross Academy of Traumatology
at the FMHCA 2022 conference.



Green Cross in Puerto Rico,
2019



Virgin Islands, 2018 workshop



Green Cross Training,
Cameroon 2022



Lebanon, 2017 workshop

Training in Kenya 2019



We are international...

Can't make a training site schedule work for you?

Take our trainings independently online!

For Pre-Recorded Trainings, Visit:

traumastudiesregent.skilljar.com/

Website: greencross.org

Email: gcatofficemanager@gmail.com

Phone: 571-302-3486

Green Cross Academy of Traumatology

45154 Underwood Lane

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