

About the Authors

D. Maurie Lung has always loved the out-of-doors and adventure. Her first work experiences were providing opportunities for outdoor adventure as a camp counselor. This led her to study environmental education and outdoor recreation and become a Camp Director. As youth and adults learned about the world around them and gained new skills, she saw them learning about the world inside them and how to relate to others in a more caring and authentic way. She went back to school for her Masters in Counseling and doctorate level work in Clinical Psychology to be able to provide these experiences more intentionally.

Currently, Maurie is a licensed marriage family therapist and licensed mental health counselor practicing in the Tampa Bay area. She facilitates programs in therapeutic, educational, and recreational settings. With a culturally diverse clientele, she provides individual, group, family, and couples counseling in an outpatient setting, primarily from a Solutions-focused therapeutic model and integrating adventure into both individual and group (or family) sessions. The growth and change she witnesses through this process continues to amaze her.



Gary A. Stauffer has spent the past 30 years of professional social work practice working with children and youth. Those years have included a decade of clinical work in community mental health settings and the past 20 years as a school social worker, including 10 years in a day treatment program for youth with severe emotional impairments. Gary integrates adventure-based principles into every aspect of his work, including individual counseling sessions.

Gary's current professional activities include managing an adventure-based program as a school social worker for the Monroe County Intermediate School District; training and consultation on experiential practice through Adventures In Training, Inc; teaching as an adjunct lecturer for the University of Michigan School of Social Work; and serving as a council member for the national Therapeutic Adventure Professional Group of the Association for Experiential Education.

Tony Alvarez lives on O`ahu in Hawaii and is a faculty member of the University of Hawaii School of Social Work. He trains, teaches, advises, counsels, coaches, consults, and supervises Masters level Social Work and Psychology students, Child Welfare workers, community-based human service providers and Mental Health workers.

A Social Worker for 40 years, Tony's practice is almost entirely adventure/experiential-based. Much of his time goes to training others who are in direct practice with children, youth, and families. Since moving to Hawaii, he has offered workshops and training sessions to practitioners in the Philippines, Taiwan, and on five of the islands of Hawaii.

