Retrouvaille Marriage Program Help Information

San Jose/Silicon Valley Retrouvaille ... A Lifeline for Marriages

Hello,

We are Mike & Nancy, volunteers and the information contact for the Retrouvaille of San Jose/Silicon Valley Weekend Program.

There is still availability on the May 5-7, 2023 marriage program. Although we are planning on having a live, in-person weekend that may change depending on COVID-19.

If it is live, in-person weekend it will start Friday evening May 5th at 6pm thru Sunday evening May 7th 5pm. The weekend will be followed by a series of 8 weekly Saturday <u>Virtual</u> Post Weekend Sessions on Zoom. Dates are on the registration "Post Sessions" tab. 2 topics at each session, Noon – 6pm.

For the Virtual online program, you will need a full sized computer, laptop or tablet and reliable, high speed Internet service. If you do not have reliable, high speed Internet in your home we suggest that you check into a hotel. You will need a late 5:00 pm Sunday check out time.

You will need complete privacy during the program. Children will need to be cared for by other adults in another location. Teens and other adults in the household will need other accommodations to ensure you full privacy.

This program is **not** group therapy and you will not be asked to share your problems with anyone else.

The program approximately 48 Hours (weekend and post weekend sessions) is led by people who have been through the program themselves. They share their own stories of struggles and how they applied the program's concepts, values and tools to begin overcoming those issues. These experienced people, who have been there themselves, will lead you on your own journey of healing and growth.

Successful Worldwide Program

This is a marriage help program located in about 150 cities in more than 25 countries around the world. It has provided the tools to help 10's of 1000's of marriages and families over the last 40+ years. Some couples come to the weekend at the early signs of difficulty. Others consider the program their last resort and come during times of deep misery. Either way, this program will work for you if you commit to work the program.

94.81% of couples attending the program are extremely likely to recommend it to others.

How Retrouvaille changed the marriages & lives of actual couples - Video testimonials

Full Program = Weekend AND Post Weekend Sessions

The program consists of a weekend experience followed by what we call "Post Sessions." Although we wish it were possible, the fact remains that in a single weekend we can't fix

problems that may have built over many years. That's why the Post Sessions are so important. The dates and times of these Post Sessions can be found at RetroCA.com select "Post Session Dates". San Jose/Silicon Valley Retrouvaille is near the bottom of the list.

Many have referred to this as a miracle weekend. It is not. It is a wonderful weekend. And, it is definitely a critical piece of the program. But, it would be naive to think that anyone could solve significant marriage issues in just one weekend. The weekend gets you maybe 30% of the way there. The Post Weekend Sessions are designed to keep that momentum going and take you the rest of the way. That's why we emphasize doing the entire program immediately after the weekend. You will be glad you attended.

We ask you to commit to the entire program. Emergencies may arise and one or both you may have to miss a Post Session. We do have alternate arrangements for such instances. This is a powerful and life changing program, but you need the entire experience to take full advantage of it: Weekend and Post Weekend Sessions. To only take a part of the program is like buying a new car and not putting gas in it. It may seem OK for a little while and then stop when you least expect it.

Led by Those Who have Been There Themselves

The Retrouvaille Weekend is a working weekend in which you will be focusing on your marriage. As we said earlier, this is NOT group therapy and you will not be asked to share your problems or story with anyone else. The program focuses on healthy communication skills between a husband and wife. These communication skills help couples deal with troubles in their marriage and build a closer and more satisfying relationship between them.

You will be guided through the weekend by 3 presenting couples and a Catholic priest or 3 couples and a Christian pastor and spouse. As they apply to helping a marriage, Christian values will be discussed. No other religious doctrine is discussed and no attempt will be made to convert you to any faith. The Christian values discussed are common to most faith traditions. The program is open to and encouraged for those of <u>all</u> faith traditions as well as to those with no particular faith beliefs. We invite those of other faiths to apply the values taught in a manner consistent with their faith.

Proud People May be Reluctant

One of the major differences between this program many others is that no one will ever ask you what your problems are. Your issues are private between the two of you. No one else needs to know what they are for the program to be successful.

For many of us proud men and women, that can be a big relief. We never have to defend ourselves, because no one ever tries to make us wrong.

Rather, this program offers a workshop setting led by couples who have been there themselves. These facilitating couples know the pain of a hurting marriage. They never try to change or fix anyone. Rather, they tell their own story of what they learned from the program and how it changed their lives. Then they teach you the same tools that worked for them. The design of the program is absolutely genius.

For Everyone Regardless of Finances

Costs and registration fees vary by city and will change as program costs change. Please call us to find out the current donation amount requested. In San Jose/Silicon Valley we request a \$175 registration fee to reserve your attendance on the weekend. If the registration fee poses a financial burden, you are encouraged to contact us to discuss the possibility of a fee reduction.

The program is a non-profit organization and you will be asked to give a one time donation on the weekend. The program receives no financial support from any church or other organization. It operates solely based on the generous donations of the attending couples. Costs are substantial including the ongoing training and support of the presenting team and many other relentless expenses.

With that said, we do not turn anyone away who is experiencing financial hardship. If your marriage needs help we want you to attend regardless of the amount you can donate. The program is focused on saving families, not on money.

Everyone connected with Retrouvaille is a volunteer and began their healing journey as participants in this program.

Many couples are referred to the program by their therapist, clergy, divorce mediator, family, friends and even strangers. The reasons people attend are unique, but the pain and hurts are very real. Retrouvaille can be the lifeline that saves a marriage ... that was the case with us. When we found Retrouvaille we were both hurting and very angry. That was many years ago. We, and our children, are in a much better place today. Although it may sound cliché, we owe it all to this program.

How to Register

Register at: <u>HelpOurMarriage.org</u> under Program Dates & Locations, California, San Jose/Silicon Valley, Begin Registration. At the bottom, "Continue to Step 2" will take you to a secure page where you can use your credit card for the \$175 registration fee. Select "Pay as a Guest" to avoid joining Paypal.

Your place on the weekend is **not** reserved until we receive all or part of that registration fee. **No** couple is ever denied the ability to heal a struggling marriage because of lack of funds.

Places are still available today but space is limited and we honor registrations on a first-come, first-served basis. The schedule for the Post Weekend Sessions can be found on RetroCA.com on the "Post Session Dates" tab.

<u>If you have any other questions or concerns, please reply to this email or call</u> one of our caring volunteers at 408-605-4998. All inquiries are held in the strictest confidence.

Virtual Saturday Post Dates:

Post 1 & 2 05/13/23 noon-6pm

Post 3 & 4 05/20/23 noon-6pm

Post 5 & 6 05/27/23 noon-6pm Special Session 06/03/23 noon-4p Post 7 & 8 06/10/23 noon-6pm Post 9 & 10 06/17/23 noon-6pm Post 11 & 12 06/24/23 noon-6pm RV Challenge 07/01/23 noon-4p

Peace and warm regards,
Mike & Nancy
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HelpOurMarriage.org