Comprehensive Training in Hakomi Mindful Somatic Psychotherapy

Course Agenda/Outline:

Module One:

This Module is comprised of 32 training days, taught in 8 four-day training segments. The training meets every 4-6 weeks, and the average duration of the training is one year. Each training has a minimum of two main trainers, plus guest trainers, teachers, and teaching assistants.

Main topics and skills in Comprehensive Training/Module One:

- 1. The Hakomi Principles and creating safety in the therapeutic relationship
- 2. The practice of loving presence and its underlying neuroscience
- 3. Psychodynamic mindfulness in the therapeutic process and underlying neuroscience
- 4. Tracking for "indicators": unconscious somatic and verbal cues
- 5. The skill of "making contact" to deepen the therapeutic process
- 6. Creating experiments in mindfulness, using verbal "probes" and Hakomi somatic techniques
- 7. Accessing unconscious core material and implicit memory
- 8. Deepening into unconscious material and stabilizing mindfulness
- 9. Supporting defenses using verbal and somatic techniques
- 10. The body as map of the psyche
- 11. Discerning and integrating the meaning of elicited information
- 12. Working at the unconscious "barriers", embracing and transcending resistance
- 13. Memory re-consolidation: Working with the child and the "Missing Experience"
- 14. Recognizing traumatic activation and resourcing
- 15. Working with strong emotions and integrating these into the therapeutic process.
- 16. Integration of therapeutic experience into the client's daily life.

An outline of a four-day training block typically includes (sequence of events may change per the learning needs of the group):

Thursday 1-6:30 p.m.

- Mindfulness and group integration exercise.
- Didactic talk on first topic/skill for the training block (see list of main topics above)
- Break
- Experiential practice of skill in dyads or triads
- Debrief/discussion of exercise

Friday: 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

- Mindfulness exercise
- Didactic talk on main topic/skill for this training block (part 2)
- Break
- Demonstration by trainer of therapy session with emphasis on skills for this training block

- Lunch break (90 min.)
- Debrief of demonstration with Q&A
- Supervised/experiential practice of this skill in small groups
- Break
- Debrief of experiential practice

Saturday 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

- Mindfulness exercise
- Didactic talk: Introduction of second topic/skill for this training block
- Break
- Experiential practice in dyads or triads of skills for this training block
- Lunch break (90 min.)
- Debrief/discussion of exercise with Q&A
- Break
- Group process emphasizing building safety and communication.

Sunday 9 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

- Mindfulness exercise
- Didactic talk including questions on practical integration of this segment's topics/skills into students' therapeutic practices.
- Break
- Small group practice with focus on integration of these skills
- Discussion, Q&A, and group completion for this segment.

Module Two:

Course Agenda/Outline:

This Module is comprised of 28 training days, taught in 7 four-day training segments. The training meets every 4-6 weeks, and the average duration of the training is one year. Each training has a minimum of two main trainers, plus guest trainers, teachers, and teaching assistants.

Main topics and skills in Comprehensive Training/Module Two:

Module Two continues to develop the skills and practices learned in Module One, and includes more advanced supervision. In addition, these topics and skills are taught:

- 1) Recognizing eight main character strategies and developmental issues, and corresponding therapeutic interventions
- 2) Using the "Sensitivity Cycle" and other therapeutic maps
- 3) Differentiating between traumatic activation/wounding and developmental wounding
- 5) Working with developmental trauma/attachment wounds
- 5) Applied systems theory in Hakomi
- 6) Completion of the therapy session with memory reconsolidation and integration into the client's life and behavior.

7) Ethics as Right Use of Power

An outline of a four-day training block typically includes (sequence of events may change per the learning needs of the group):

Thursday 1-6:30 p.m.

- Mindfulness and group integration exercise.
- Didactic talk on first topic/skill for the training block (see list of main topics above)
- Break
- Experiential practice of skill in dyads or triads
- Debrief/discussion of exercise

Friday: 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

- Mindfulness exercise
- Didactic talk on first topic/skill for this training block (part 2)
- Break
- Demonstration by trainer of therapy session with emphasis on skills for this training block
- Lunch break (90 min.)
- Debrief of demonstration with Q&A
- Supervised/experiential practice of this skill in small groups
- Break
- Debrief of experiential practice

Saturday 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

- Mindfulness exercise
- Didactic talk: Introduction of second topic for this training block
- Break
- Experiential practice in dyads or triads, integrating skills and topics for this training block.
- Lunch break (90 min.)
- Debrief/discussion of exercise with Q&A
- Break
- Group process emphasizing building safety and communication.

Sunday 9 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

- Mindfulness exercise
- Supervised practice of the Hakomi method, including all skills and principles taught to date.
- Break
- Discussion, Q&A, and group completion for this segment.