

Yellow Stream - Specialized Programs

Certificate in Attachment-Based Play Therapy



Special Interest & Advanced Practitioner

This certificate program can be taken as a stand-alone specialized training for those **wishing to explore this play intervention/modality. You do not require a Master's** degree to enter this program. However, due to the focus on specific techniques, as applied to special population/referral issues, as well as a developmental approach (understanding developmental stages as represented in play), previous training in play therapy is strongly encouraged.

The Certificate in Attachment-Based Play Therapy program offers 21 contact hours of approved/certified training. This certificate program is part of RMPTI's fully integrated training program continuum, as it builds on the integrative approach to play therapy introduced in the Green Stream, with an emphasis on theory, techniques and applications to specific referral issues.

The program focuses specific topics and techniques related to attachment theory, including assessment and engagement protocols and relationship-enhancement interventions. As an organizing framework, participants will be introduced to the "Brightening the Relationship" model developed by RMPTI. Through detailed case examples participants will learn about screening/assessment activities as well as case conceptualization and treatment planning strategies.

For full details please refer to the [application form](#). To access program dates see the [training calendar](#).

Program Goals

The primary goals of this program are to enhance therapist awareness of clinical judgment in selecting, tailoring and implementing relationship-enhancement treatment activities, particularly the therapist's role in vitalizing attunement and methods of conceptualizing and working with adult attachment issues. Case vignettes are used to foster case conceptualization and treatment planning skills.

Recommended Readings

Hughes, D.A. (1997). *Facilitating developmental attachment; The road to emotional recovery and behavioral change in foster and adopted children*. Jason Aronson Inc, Northvale, NJ.

Levy, T. M. (Ed) (2000). *Handbook of attachment interventions*. Academic Press, San Diego, California.

Program Outline

Day 1

- Identification of Primary Attachment Domains
- Co-Regulation and the Psychobiology of Attachment
- Consideration of the Adult/Caregiver Attachment Organization
- Filial Play Therapy
- Case Consultation

Day 2

- Attachment through Middle Childhood
- Theraplay
- Theraplay Activities
- Case Conceptualization

Day 3

- Playtime Exercise
- Introduction to Case: Attachment Script Interview
- Video – Play-based Parent/Child Observation
- Video – Relationship Dimensions Interview –Rate results
- Phases of treatment – Slides
- Introduction to: **“Brightening the Relationship”**
- Designing play-based activities
- Case Consultation
- Closing questions / discussion

Learning Objectives

To introduce practitioners to a dynamic play-based process for conceptualizing and intervening on relational issues. To provide the practitioner with a comprehensive and sound screening-assessment approach, linking play-based interventions to relational needs and issues.

Upon successful completion of the course each participant will have gained:

- Theoretical knowledge of attachment organization and how it surfaces in the attachment behaviors and sequences of children.
- An understanding of the primary relational domains
- An appreciation for the impact of relational trauma and the role of the adult attachment system in parent-child work.
- An understanding of screening-assessment strategies, including parent script interviews and parent-child observations.
- An understanding of how to engage parents in the treatment process
- An appreciation of the critical factors in treatment planning and the stages of treatment.
- A practical understanding of how to monitor treatment outcomes and provide feedback to parents and third parties
- An understanding of how to adapt play-based interventions for specific referral issues.

Methods

- Experiential learning activities
- Video clips
- Case vignettes/examples
- A competency based role play demonstrations
- Process journal

Awards

Participants will receive a Certificate confirming the completion of 21 hours of specialized play therapy training approved by APT and CACPT. All training hours count toward certification or registration as a play therapist.

The certificate will be awarded on the basis of:

- Satisfactory attendance (no whole module may be missed unless there are extenuating circumstances. A makeup assignment may be requested depending on time missed).