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INFORMATION SHEET

FOUNDATION LEVEL CERTIFICATE COURSE IN: **FAMILY FOCUSED PRACTICE** **USING APPLIED SYSTEMIC THEORY**

Introduction

This introductory course is designed to meet the Association for Family Therapy and Systemic Practice (AFT) requirements for the training of family therapists and systemic practitioners, and is informed by their guidelines. It is a foundation level course, one academic year in duration and offers a pathway for progression to a 4 year qualifying course for students wishing to embark on a career in individual, couples and family therapy.

Rationale for the Course

Practitioners working in the fields of community and youth work, education, health and social care - in a society which is diverse in culture, religion, ethnicity, sexual orientation - necessarily have to interact in a range of relationships with others who might have different beliefs and value systems from their own. In their professional roles as social worker, nurse, youth worker, psychologist, nursery nurse, teachers, teacher's assistant etc, they will be expected to intervene as advocates, decision-makers or treatment providers in cases where there are issues of physical, sexual, emotional and racial abuse, domestic violence and self-harming behaviours, identity confusion and other related and critical concerns to be addressed.

Systemic thinking and many of the techniques and skills taught within this approach offer practitioners the tools and resources that can provide them with ways of acting in the many complex situations involving people in communication with one another.

Linking theory with practice, the development of self-reflexivity and the fostering of a sense of professional identity are key aspects of the training on this course which aims to provide students with opportunities to connect their learning with their own work situation.

Length and Structure of the Course

The course is run on a Saturday over 3 terms from October to July. Attendance is for one half day every fortnight with one full day at the start of each term. Students should allow themselves a further 120 hours independent study time in order to produce the assignments required to successfully complete the course.

Teaching will be in large and small groups. Pre-recorded materials (eg DVDs/video) will be used to stimulate discussions. Case presentation, discussions and skills development exercises will also be used to facilitate learning.

Entry Requirements

You should have a qualification, training or substantial experience in social work, nursing, youth work, teaching, psychology counseling, psychiatry or other health or social care profession. You should belong to a work group or organisation and be able to bring your work for discussion in the teaching groups. You will need to provide two references.

Fees

The course fee is: £2150. Arrangements can be made for this to be paid in instalments.

An application form can be downloaded from our website: www.chironconsulting.org. Your application form should be accompanied by a non-refundable deposit of £50 and two references.