

CIP COMMUNITY NOTES

Community Institute for Psychotherapy ◆ San Rafael, California ◆ Vol. 21, Number 4

September 2012

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



Dr. Robin Joy Berenson

CIP benefits from our dual nature: As a grassroots agency serving hundreds of Marin families, adults, and children each year, CIP is alert to changing needs in our community. As a training

institution, we incorporate the latest thinking and best practices in our field.

These attributes come together in our new school-based outreach program, Free to Be: Mindfulness, Imagery, and Movement. Based on the increasing evidence of the emotional and psychological benefits of mindfulness, this innovative program is designed to provide at-risk middle- and high-school students with the tools to develop healthy selfesteem and communication, decision making and social skills.

The inauguration of our Free to Be program is among several exciting developments at the outset of our 2012-2013 training year. We are especially pleased to welcome Mark Edwards, MS, LMFT, who joins our Core Staff as Assistant Clinical Director, and Anne Khalifeh, PsyD, Director of our Eating Disorders Program, along with other new supervisors, trainers, and intern-therapists. September is also the time when we invite new client referrals; from family therapy to psychological testing, we offer a full range of services.

As we look forward to another productive year, we are acutely aware of our role in providing vital safety net services to those in greatest need in our community. We appreciate the generous support of the many donors and sponsors who make our work possible.

CIP WELCOMES NEW STAFF MEMBERS

In this newsletter we are pleased to introduce two outstanding clinicians to the CIP community, Mark Edwards, MS, LMFT, Assistant Clinical Director, and Anne Khalifeh, PsyD, Director of our Eating Disorders Program. We have asked them to tell a little about themselves, what drew them to CIP, and what they most look forward to in their new roles.

(continued, page 2)



New Assistant Clinical Director, Mark Edwards, MS, LMFT.

OPENINGS FOR REFERRALS, NEW CLIENTS

Beginning this month, CIP has openings for new clients interested in short- and longterm counseling and psychotherapy, adult therapy groups, and psychological testing. Our comprehensive services for couples, individuals, and families are available on a sliding scale fee basis; Victim's Witness and Medi-Cal are accepted.

Counseling is provided by qualified intern-therapists with a diverse range of expertise and experience, including issues regarding relationships, parenting, life and career changes, self-esteem, women's and men's issues, loss and grief. We work with depression, anxiety, trauma, PTSD, dual diagnosis, addictions and indepth work with clients with axis II disorders.

Among the services offered are individual psychotherapy for adults and children, including long-term depth work, attachment, mindfulness, CBT and DBT; couples and family therapy; crisis intervention, assessment; sandtray and art therapy.

Each year, CIP receives client referrals from a variety of sources, including public and private agencies, hospitals, schools, churches, and professionals. Many come to CIP on the recommendation of friends or family. To make an appointment, call (415) 459-5999 ext. 102.

For more information about our programs, please see page 5 or visit www.cipmarin.org.

Professional Development Series 2012–2013

We've assembled an exciting roster of continuing education programs for LMFTs, LCSWs and psychologists. See page 4 for the fall schedule of the Seminar for Professionals and Study Groups and Classes. Complete information online at www.cipmarin.org.

STAFF UPDATE

CIPWelcomes New Staff Members (cont. from p. I)

INTRODUCING MARK EDWARDS, MS, LMFT

As a practitioner and previously an intern in Marin County, I have always been aware of the Community Institute for Psychotherapy. Friends and colleagues have often commented on the professionalism and breadth of service offered by the organization. CIP has a strong reputation for clinical training, enjoyed by many of my colleagues during their own internships here. My own experience of professional development trainings over the years has been impressive. I am certainly very excited to join the clinical staff of the agency and hope to add a little something to a tremendously strong team of trainers and supervisors.

Since moving to the United States from London 20 years ago, I have had the opportunity to work in a number of agencies around the Bay Area and relish the prospect of again working with other clinicians in a collaborative environment. In recent years I have had the pleasure of teaching several graduate level classes in the Department of Counseling at Sonoma State University. I love the experience of bringing new and challenging ideas to students and interns, and helping them to "find the way" in the early years of clinical practice. I certainly feel that I gain more from the experience than I give.

Personally, I feel fortunate to be able to raise a family in such a nourishing environment as Marin County and to be able to be a small part of an agency dedicated to making it a better place. I am thrilled to be joining the Community Institute for Psychotherapy and am very much looking forward to building new relationships with members of the CIP community.

WELCOMING ANNE KHALIFEH, PSYD



I am a native of Marin County, and after being away for my undergraduate and graduate education, I am excited to be back in town. I was drawn to CIP both because of the opportunity to work with the therapists-in-training, and also because of the opportunity to serve the residents of my home community. This has been one of my goals for many years.

My areas of specialty are in neuropsychology and eating disorders. In addition to my private practice in

Larkspur, I am also the Clinical Director at La Ventana Eating Disorder Programs in San Jose. Prior to moving back to Marin, I was the Program Director of the Evening Intensive Outpatient Program at the Eating Disorder Center of Denver. I completed an APA-accredited pre-doctoral internship at the University of Colorado, Boulder, where I served on the psychological assessment, eating disorder, and substance abuse treatment teams.

I am currently working on a post-doctoral neuropsychology certificate at the Fielding Graduate Institute and have completed neuropsychology training rotations at Kaiser Permanente and the Harbor-UCLA Medical Center. I am a member of the Marin County Psychological Association, the California Psychological Association, and the American Psychological Association.

I am most looking forward to the opportunity to interact and engage with the interns and the community, and to provide education about eating disorders.

CLINICAL STAFF

EXECUTIVE & CLINICAL DIRECTOR Robin Joy Berenson, PhD, LMFT

ASSISTANT CLINICAL DIRECTORS Mark Edwards, MS, LMFT Cynthia Kessler, PhD Paula Sitelman, PsyD

DIRECTOR OF PRE-DOCTORAL AND POST-DOCTORAL PROGRAM
Paula Sitelman, PsyD

COORDINATOR, CIP PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SERIES

Mark Edwards, MS, LMFT

COORDINATOR, INTERN TRAINING PROGRAM
Cynthia Kessler, PhD

COORDINATOR, TRAININGS FOR SUPERVISORS

Paula Sitelman, PsyD

DIRECTOR OF ADULT GROUP THERAPY PROGRAM
Walter Stone, MD

DIRECTOR OF COUPLES THERAPY PROGRAM Pat Shelton, PhD, LMFT Marianne Stefancic, LMFT

DIRECTOR OF IMAGERY, MINDFULNESS & MOVEMENT PROGRAM Ilene Serlin, PhD

DIRECTOR CANAL ALLIANCE SUPPORT PROGRAM Lori Rifkin, PhD

DIRECTOR OF EATING DISORDERS PROGRAM & EMBODY POWER PROGRAM Anne Khalifeh, PsyD

DIRECTOR OF SCHOOLS PROJECT Jean Hayes, PhD, LMFT

DIRECTOR OF SUBSTANCE ABUSE OUTREACH PROGRAMS Belinda Ryland, LMFT

SUPERVISION OF PSYCHOLOGICAL TESTING PROGRAM Barbara Nova, PhD

(continued on page 3)

CIP WISH LIST

- Comfortable chairs for therapy.
- PCs that are no more than 1-2 years old for intern-therapist office.

CLINICAL STAFF (CON'T)

Clinical Supervisors

Michael Aanavi, PhD, LAc Barbara Adamich, LCSW Sophia Amargi, LMFT Martin Block, PhD Eileen Cohune Brown, LMFT Heather Burns, LCSW Beth Cassel, LMFT Laura Foster Collins, LMFT Jane Cunningham, LMFT Cara deVries, LMFT Susan Edelstein, PhD, PsyD Sheva Feld, PhD Sue Fleckles, PhD Susan Pease Gadoua, LCSW Elena Gonzales, PhD Bernice Goodwin, PsyD Ann Gordon, PhD Margaret Kirschner, PsyD Hollie Hannan, PhD, LMFT Diane Harnish, PhD Meghan Harris, PsyD Amy Horn, LMFT David Howard, PsyD Kathryn Hughes, LCSW Shira Marin, LMFT Myriam Martinez, LMFT Robin Mayer, MA, LMFT Shana Millstein, PhD Robert Nemerovski, PsyD Bob O' Brien, LMFT Kevin Orzech, PsyD Diane Ray, LMFT Jane Reingold, LMFT Eric Reitz, PhD Jeana Reynolds, LMFT Jennifer Rice, PhD Joan Robinson, LCSW Frederick G. Rozendal, PhD Belinda Ryland, LMFT Janelle Salah, LMFT Ellen Sanford, LMFT Leah Seidler, LCSW Joshua Simmons, PsyD Gregory Smith, LMFT Joan Sommer, PhD Matt Spalding, PsyD, EdM Steve Sulmeyer, JD, PhD Priscilla Taylor, PhD, LMFT

Intern-Therapists

Jessica Tsukahara, RN, LMFT

Elyse Boyar, MA Alan Camardo, MA Nitsa Dimitrakos, MA Amy Dineen Revnold Fuiikawa Tammie Grant Ian-Michael Hebert Alison Hoffman, MA Kristie Isaacson, MA Jacob Kaminker, PhD Daniela Koromzay JoAnne MacTaggart, MA Katie Mersereau, MA Vanessa Morrison Deb Nelson, MA Michael, Newmark, MA Lisa Plopa, MA Alley Ramon Duncan Riach, MA Cary Ann Rosko Johanna Svedberg Lafferty, MA Eva Tuschman Lesley Van Voorhees, MSW Tamsin Woodmason, MS

PROGRAM NEWS

Free to Be! Outreach Program Teaches Mindfulness Practice

Adolescence is a time of self-discovery, when youth learn valuable lessons about themselves, how to make good decisions, and how to interact with peers, family, and others. Gaining the skills needed to successfully negotiate the transition into adulthood and enjoy healthy development can be a struggle. Providing support for youth at a time when they are grappling with these issues is a proactive way to prevent the development of social and/or mental health problems.

In September 2012, CIP will begin a new school-based outreach program, Free to Be: Mindfulness, Imagery, and Movement, designed to introduce middle- and high-school youth to important skills that will provide lifetime benefits. Through mindfulness practice, emphasizing self-awareness and positive interpersonal skills in a small group setting, students will receive support in developing new ways of relating to thoughts and feelings, fostering empathy, and building communication skills.

The program is based on the growing body of evidence that mindfulness techniques are effective in helping children and adolescents improve focus, impulse control, self-esteem, compassion, and stress reduction. Through the combination of mindfulness techniques, imagery, and movement, youth will gain awareness of their physical and emotional selves, including the recognition of difficult feelings and how to manage them.

Meeting a long-recognized need for early intervention and problem prevention, Free to Be will complement our ongoing Schools Project, which provides counseling for students at risk of school failure. This first year, CIP will offer groups in several schools, including Miller Creek and Davidson middle schools, and San Rafael High School, all long-time partners in the Schools Project. Six-week groups of six to eight students will be conducted on three

different topics. Participating students will be selected by school personnel as those who will derive the most benefit from the groups.

Through mindfulness practice . . . students will receive support in developing new ways of relating to thoughts and feelings

Real Friends will focus on interpersonal communication and relationship building, including cultivating compassion, tolerance, and respect for oneself and others. Discussion will include such topics as how to be a friend and how to help a friend.

It's Not (Always) What You Think will help participants recognize and identify feelings such as stress, anger, fear, and anxiety, and learn healthy ways to manage these difficult emotions. Emphasis will be on how to appropriately express emotional needs, how to self-soothe, and how to trust and use one's own wisdom.

Know Your Boundaries will demonstrate how boundaries between people, as well as between one's own thoughts and actions, can help youth negotiate safely among relationships, and avoid risky behaviors. Discussion will include how to deal with bullying and with domestic violence at home.

Free to Be will be led by CIP intern-therapists Eva Tuschman and Elyse Boyar, MA, under the supervision of Program Director Ilene A. Serlin, PhD. "Through bringing increased awareness to the external environment and to the internal experience of the body and the mind, youth can gain a general sense of psychological and emotional well-being," explains Eva.

Professional Development Series 2012–2013

Our great Fall programs are listed below. Please visit the Professional Development page at www.cipmarin.org and click on Professional Development for full program listings, including complete course descriptions, presenter bios, and registration. Or you may call (415) 459-5999x101 or email admin@cipmarin.org to register for any seminars or classes.

We are proud to announce that CIP has recently been approved by the American Psychological Association to sponsor continuing education for psychologists.

SEMINAR FOR PROFESSIONALS

What Every Therapist Needs to Know About Divorce



with Steve Sulmeyer, JD, PhD and Susan Pease Gadoua, LCSW
Saturday, November 10, 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM
Town Center Community Room, 770 Tamalpais Dr., Corte Madera, CA 94925
6 CEs approved for LMFTs and LCSWs and 6 CEs approved by the MCEPAA for psychologists
CIP Members: \$75 early registration fee before November 1; \$85 thereafter.

Non-members: \$110 early registration fee before November 1; \$120 thereafter.

STUDY GROUPS & CLASSES

CIP Member Rate: \$50 early registration fee, up to 10 days prior to first class, \$60 thereafter. Non-member Rate: \$75 early registration fee, up to 10 days prior to first class, \$85 thereafter. CEs: 4 CEs for LMFTs & LCSWs and 4 CEs approved by the MCEPAA for psychologists

When Therapy Happens Outside the Office: Electronic Media in Psychodynamic Psychotherapy



with Michael Donner, PhD
Saturdays, October 6 and October 13, 9:30 - 11:30 AM
Held at CIP, 1330 Lincoln Ave, Suite 201, San Rafael, CA 94901

Awakening to Awe in Our Practices and Ourselves



with Kirk J. Schneider, PhD Saturday, October 27, 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM Held at CIP, 1330 Lincoln Ave, Suite 201, San Rafael, CA 94901

Help CIP go green!

Send us your email address and receive future schedules and updates online!

- Professional Development Update: Monthly email newsletter for mental health professionals providing up to date information on CIP's Professional Development programs and member news.
- *CIP News & Notes*: A monthly email newsletter offering short, practical articles on issues concerning health and wellness for the general reader. Keep up to date with CIP news and events!
- *Community Notes:* Enjoy our quarterly newsletter in paperless form. Staff and professional development news, program updates, events news, and more!

CIP MEMBERSHIP BRINGS BENEFITS ...

Founded in 2004, CIP's Professional Development Program offers Bay Area professionals the opportunity to become nonvoting members of the agency.

Members receive reduced member rates on all seminars, classes, and study groups. They are also eligible to submit articles for our online publications, and to share news of their practice, publications, or workshops with other Bay Area professionals through our "Members Update."

Sign up before September 15 to receive a listing in our Membership Directory and enjoy a full year of member discounts on our 2012-2013 programs! Membership Fee: \$50 Membership for licensed professionals; \$30 Associate member (unlicensed).

Become a member or renew your membership today at www.cipmarin.org.

CIP PROGRAMS OPEN FOR REFERRALS

CIP offers a full range of psychological services on a sliding scale basis. We are open for appointments from 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM, Monday through Saturday. To make an appointment, contact our intake line at (415) 459-5999 x102.

Our comprehensive services include psychotherapy for adults and children, couples therapy, family therapy; crisis intervention; thorough assessments; group psychotherapy; sandtray and art therapy.

ON-SITE PROGRAMS

- Individual and Family Therapy: Affordable, comprehensive services to resolve problems and restore emotional well being. Counseling promotes healthy relationships within families; maximizes children's capacity to learn; and addresses problems that compromise daily function and well being.
- Adult Therapy Groups: Opportunities for self-exploration and interpersonal learning to enhance communication skills and the ability to set and achieve personal goals. Address unresolved feelings, acquire better self-understanding and self-acceptance for greater satisfaction in life. Call (415) 459-5999, ext. 412 for more information.
- Couples Therapy Program: Support to enhance and deepen relationships, improve communication, and end repetitive conflicts. Counseling enables couples to sort out their complex experiences and focus on differentiation and self-development within the relationship.
- Eating Disorders Therapy Program: Comprehensive, effective treatment for individuals struggling with food issues, disordered eating, and/or body image and weight. Program uses an integrated and flexible approach to address the emotional and psychological issues that lead to disordered eating and body image.
- Psychological Testing: For adults to enhance the quality and effectiveness of
 individual therapy. Client and therapist work together to develop one or more
 questions, for example, pertaining to personal goals, career questions, or relationship issues.
- Support for Single Parents and their Children: Counseling to improve home environments, strengthen child-parent bond, maximize children's healthy development, school readiness and performance, and prevent long-term problems. We help parents to establish safe, nurturing homes for their children.
- Support for Survivors of Childhood Abuse: Healing from trauma and help to
 overcome intimacy issues, substance abuse, and other problems.

OFF-SITE PROGRAMS

CIP works in collaboration with other established Marin service organizations to more effectively meet the needs of vulnerable populations.

- Canal Alliance After School Youth Counseling
- Free to Be: Mindfulness, Imagery, and Movement School-based Therapy Groups
- Helen Vine Detox Project
- Marin Alliance for Psychiatric Services
- Ritter Center Program
- Senior Access Program
- The Schools Project for Disadvantaged Students at Risk

"BITTERSWEET" ROPE CEREMONY CELEBRATES DEPARTING INTERNS

On the morning of June 30th, CIP interns and core staff gathered for the biannual ritual known as The Rope Ceremony. Executive and Clinical Director, Robin Joy Berenson, PhD, LMFT, shared the origins of this ritual, which dates from 1979. Interns thought back to personal goals created in September, such as to cultivate community, practice self-care, accept a state of "not knowing," and yoke mind and heart.

Core staff member and Director of Pre-Doctoral and Post-Doctural Program, Paula Sitelman, PsyD, spoke about the bittersweet time each year when the community says goodbye to departing intern-therapists who are moving on to new stages of their careers. Like children who eventually leave home, interns, she reflected, are also just "on loan" for a time. Yet what we retain through these transitions are the lasting relationships we've formed.

Core staff member, Michael Aanavi, PhD, said that the internship training process can feel like "being pulled through a knothole backwards," and that we cannot help but be transformed, often in unexpected ways. Interns recalled the emotional and intellectual challenges of training, yet a feeling of being held and supported in the safety of CIP's container. They spoke of the ways in which they have internalized the guidance and wisdom of individual mentors, the great circle of supervisors who support their clinical development.

Departing interns expressed gratitude for the community in which this growth can happen. They spoke of the steep learning curve inherent to the process of becoming a clinician, and their willingness to undergo a spiritual journey of sorts as they dedicate themselves to this training and profession. Interns leaving this year will carry the spirit of CIP out into the community as they launch their practices and continue to cultivate their professional selves and serve those in need.

AHeartfelt Thank You to Our Donors,

We gratefully acknowledge the generous support of our donors and grantors. You make our work in the community possible! Because of you, CIP is here helping families, healing individuals, and strengthening our community. Thank you!

June 2011 – June 2012

Circle of Inspiriation

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CIP is ...

From time to time we ask those who know CIP to complete the phrase, "CIP is . . . " Here is what some have shared.

"CIP IS...a life saver, I don't know what I would do without it. It has made me a stronger, healthier, and overall better person. I am so grateful for CIP. Thank you!:)"

"Good folks helping those of us suffering through hard times. Helping to find answers for our difficult problems. They are friendly & kind."

"CIP has helped me to grow, heal, and is helping me to live and love better and work on becoming a happier, healthier, me."

"Giving my wife & me the best environment possible to make our marriage more intimate & real."

"CIP is an extraordinary opportunity to deepen my growth as a person and clinician particularly through the combination of psychoanalytically based supervision in combination with individual treatment as a patient in psychoanalysis. Here, personal and clinical work together."

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Correction! In our June issue of Community Notes, we left out the name of a CIP Human Race Team Member. Our apologies to Lisa Plopa!

Back Row: Cynthia Kessler, PhD; Paula Sitelman, PsyD; Reynold Fujikawa; Alan Camardo; Lisa Plopa; Melanie Gilpin; Robin Joy Berenson, PhD, LMFT; Katie Mesereau; Narada Michael Walden. Front Row: Jacob Kaminker, Christine Cannavo, Kristie Issacson, Craig Issacson. (Photo by Brian Poirier)



DOUBLE YOUR IMPACT

Resolution Remedies President and CEO Perry Litchfield understands the value of working out differences before they escalate, and in 2010 he took the helm of Resolution Remedies, which is dedicated to finding alternatives to expensive litigation and court battles.

Well known for his philanthropic endeavors, Litchfield serves as President of the CIP Board of Directors. Like Resolution Remedies, CIP values working out differences before they escalate. Instead of the courtroom, CIP's work takes place in therapy offices, schools, and social service agencies. A unifying principle of both agencies is to keep services affordable.



"I want to make more business people aware of CIP, the great work CIP is doing, and the opportunity for others to help keep low-cost therapy available to struggling single parents, the unemployed and depressed, or the kids who are having trouble in school," says Litchfield. "That's why I've issued this Challenge Grant for others to demonstrate they, too, care about mental health and want to double their impact. I hope everyone will take me up on this Challenge!"

Dr. Robin Berenson, CIP's Executive Director, says, "I'm deeply touched by Perry's generosity and inspiring leadership. CIP is eager to expand the community of support for low-cost mental health services."

Double Your Impact — \$10,000 Resolution Remedies Challenge Grant

- Sign up to sponsor Loving Spoonfuls at the \$1,000 level or higher and your contribution will be matched dollar-for-dollar, up to \$10,000.
- Sponsors will receive extensive media exposure, listing on mailers, on the website, in Facebook posts, plus tickets to the event, signage and thank yous at the event.
- Event publicized in *Community Notes* newsletter sent to more than 5,000 homes and professional offices, email invitations, and 5,000 color postcards distributed county-wide.
- For more information, call Christine Cannavo at 415-459-5999 x 101 or email her at admin@cipmarin.org

LOVING SPOONFULS: SPONSOR UPDATE

Once again, First Federal Savings & Loan has demonstrated their generosity and commitment to caring. They've stepped up as a Loving Spoonfuls sponsor at the Line Cook level of last year to the Station Chef level of \$2,500. Their increased gift qualifies for the Loving Spoonfuls Challenge issued by Perry Litchfield, making CIP eligible for an additional \$1,500.

"First Federal Savings and Loan has been a long-time supporter of CIP's mission to provide affordable mental health services for the people who can't afford standard rates. We appreciate their commitment to keeping the community emotionally healthy and resilient," says Melissa Vincent, Chair of the Sponsor Committee, and Assistant VP at California Bank & Trust. She continues, "We hope others will follow First Federal's example and generously support the 2013 event."

Thanks to Our Loving Spoonfuls Sponsors

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WHO WE ARE

Community Institute for Psychotherapy (CIP) is a nonprofit, tax exempt center founded in 1977 to provide high-quality, low-cost counseling and psychological services to individuals and families who don't have the resources to pay full fees for professional help. CIP offers a full range of services designed to meet a variety of needs.

We at CIP believe that through psychotherapy, training, education, and prevention, we have a vital role to play in personal and global change. We believe the healing of the individual and the healing of the planet are inseparable.

Our work is accomplished in cooperation and coordination with a wide variety of public and private agencies and individuals throughout Marin County.

Visit us at www.cipmarin.org



Save the Date!

Savor and Sample, then Cast Your Vote!

Saturday, January 26 12:00 to 3:00 PM

Mill Valley Community Center 180 Camino Alto, Mill Valley

> Tickets \$25 in advance \$30 at the door Kids under 12 are free

Learn more and purchase tickets at www.cipmarin.org

CONFIRMED PARTICIPANTS FOR 2013

A Piece of Cake & Confections

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Saylor's Restaurant & Bar

Tavern at Lark Creek

Vin Antico



CIP intern-therapists Melanie Gilpin, MA, & Elyse Boyar, MA, greet attendees at the 2012 Loving Spoonfuls event.