Introduction to Systemic Practice with Families in a Risk Context (3 Day)

Aims

- to engage and enthuse staff in the theory and application of systemic ideas
- to introduce key ideas, language and skills to staff within the organisation who are not taking part in the certificate course for systemic training

Audience

- social workers at all experience levels
- first line managers
- early intervention practitioners
- stakeholders from partner agencies

Learning Objectives for Day 1: Introduction to basic underlying principles of systemic practice

Origins of systemic thinking, Bateson and concept of 'cybernetics'

The move away from the idea that problems are embedded in individuals, to the idea that problems are part of relationships

Broadening the context to include the wider system

Patterns of connection and how power is located within systems

Theory of change in systemic practice: distinction between first/ second order change and first/second order interventions

How do we work systemically with risk? Consider Munro review and Barry Mason's 'Safe Uncertainty'

Systemic ways to address issues of difference and diversity - introduction to John Burnham's 'social .ggrraaacceeess'

Learning Objectives for Day 2: Continuation of introduction to systemic practice to include Milan ideas

Introduction to the theory and practice of Milan principles of "hypothesising, circularity and neutrality"

"Neutrality" re-defined as "curiosity"

Theory and practice of circular questions - what is the purpose of them, and what is the effect?

The move to post-Milan and more collaborative approaches

Tom Andersen's Reflecting Team as a tool to support unit working, supervision and case consultation

Learning Objectives for Day 3: Genograms as a systemic tool

What is the purpose of using genograms?
How do they help us to think systemically?
Annotation: what do the signs/symbols mean?
How do they join together to form a genogram?
When and how can genograms be used most effectively?
Introduction to some systemic ideas that can be used in relation to genograms
Practice sessions in drawing genograms and working with a systemic lens