The Internal Family Systems Model

Internal Family SystemsSM is at the forefront of a movement toward a more collaborative therapeutic approach that relies on clients’ intuitive wisdom. IFSSM offers a clear, non-pathologizing, and empowering view of human cognitive and emotional life and provides a dynamic therapeutic approach that allows both therapist and client to enter into a transformational relationship in which healing can occur.

Richard C. Schwartz, PhD, has been developing the IFS model for more than 30 years, with IFS now practiced by thousands of licensed therapists and other professionals throughout the United States and internationally. Mental health care professionals and others trained in the IFS model can easily integrate it into a wide variety of practices using the unique methods IFS offers to create safe environments for clients to become Self-transforming. Internal Family Systems therapy is a simple yet sophisticated integration of psychology, spirituality, and intra-psychic and family systems theory that:

- Works well with couples, families, groups, and children;
- Can effectively treat trauma;
- Is a client-led approach that respects each client’s pace and goals;
- Establishes a productive, trusting, and collaborative partnership between therapist and client;
- Helps therapists remain centered and open-hearted.

Internal Family Systems: An Evidence-Based Practice

Internal Family Systems (IFS) is now posted on NREPP as an evidence-based practice. NREPP is the National Registry for Evidence-Based Programs and Practices, a national repository that is maintained by the U.S. government’s Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). Interventions listed in NREPP have been subject to independent, rigorous scrutiny, and are deemed to show significant impact on individual outcomes relating to mental health.

As a clinical treatment, IFS has been rated effective for improving general functioning and well-being. In addition, it has been rated promising for improving each of: phobia, panic, and generalized anxiety disorders and symptoms; physical health conditions and symptoms; personal resilience/self-concept; and depression and depressive symptoms.

These scientific findings and the listing of IFS on NREPP affirm the vast potential of IFS therapy for advancing emotional healing and mental well-being. In particular, they indicate promising effects on mind (depression, anxiety), body (physical health conditions), and spirit (personal resilience and self-concept).

IFS & Training Information Sources

This brochure contains many details about this program, including continuing education credit, certificate of completion attendance requirements, trainer biographies, finances, session and daily schedules, required readings, site information, and more.

For more information about IFS, please visit other tabs of our website.

The Center for Self Leadership's contact information is at the end of this brochure and on the website. We invite you to contact us with any questions.
Training Location

Watertown is a quaint New England suburb located just 20 minutes from downtown Boston. Watertown Center for Healing Arts has been welcoming IFS trainings for many years, and is easily accessible from major highways and public transit. Located in the heart of Watertown Square and an easy walk to charming shops and restaurants, Watertown Center is a great venue for your IFS training!

Curriculum

Overview: In addition to thoroughly learning IFS theory and technique, the Internal Family Systems Level 1 training program invites participants to explore their own inner worlds in a safe, nurturing context. The training will help participants:

• Understand the conceptual base of the IFS model;
• Apply basic IFS techniques to various clinical populations; and
• Take advantage of the opportunities IFS offers for personal development.

Learning Objectives: Please visit [www.selfleadership.org](http://www.selfleadership.org), FAQ page.

Format: The training includes lecture, discussion, demonstration, video review, experiential exercise, and small group supervision and practice.

Program Hours: Six, 3-day weekends (sessions) over the course of nine months for a total of 18 training days (108 program hours). Each 3-day weekend comprises 18 program hours. The daily schedule is available later in this brochure.

Trainers

Co-Lead Trainer: Michael Elkin, MA, LMFT, has been using IFS since 1995 and teaching the model since 1999. A senior IFS trainer whose unique style is founded in strategic and hypnotic therapy, Mike has presented training experiences throughout the U.S. and Europe. He is known for his creative and effective approaches to addictive and compulsive behavior, phobia, and anxiety, and is the author of Families Under the Influence, and several articles.

Co-Lead Trainer: Ann L. Sinko, LMFT, Senior IFS Trainer, has more than 25 years of clinical experience. She has been an adjunct professor for 20 years at Central Connecticut State University, training marriage and family therapists. Ann integrates IFS into her work with families, couples, individuals, and groups, and describes herself as an experiential therapist, using art, sand tray therapy, and movement to establish an environment where clients can experience unconditional acceptance. Ann is passionate about teaching, believes that theory is best integrated through experiential learning, and is known for her down to earth style and sense of humor.

Assistant Trainer/Co-Lead Trainer Mentee: Rina Dubin, EdD, is a licensed psychologist in private practice in Massachusetts working with individuals and couples, and offering supervision and consultation. She has been involved with the IFS community for more than 10 years, and has a broad background in trauma. Rina loves being involved in the process of healing, and IFS is a centerpiece in this work. She has been involved with IFSNE since its beginning, and as a member of its Steering Committee, is thrilled with the growth of IFS.
Training Schedule  
2017: Dec 15-17  
2018: Feb 16-18, Mar 23-25, June 8-10, Aug 17-19, Sep 21-23

Daily Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Morning Session</th>
<th>AM Break</th>
<th>Afternoon Session</th>
<th>PM Break</th>
<th>Training/CE Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>9:30 - 12:30</td>
<td>15 min.</td>
<td>2 – 6</td>
<td>15 min.</td>
<td>6.5 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>9 - 12:30</td>
<td>15 min.</td>
<td>2 – 6</td>
<td>15 min.</td>
<td>7.0 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>9 – 11:30</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Noon – 2</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>4.5 hours</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Certificate of Completion

A Certificate of Completion is awarded by The Center for Self Leadership and a participant must complete 90 of the 108 program hours offered in order to be eligible to earn this certificate. Participants are responsible for ensuring that they attend sufficient training hours to earn the Certificate of Completion. The daily schedule is available later in this brochure.

IFS Certification

Participants are not Certified IFS Therapists or Practitioners until they successfully complete the IFS Certification process. Information about the criteria and procedures for becoming IFS Certified is available on the CSL website certification page, or by emailing certification@selfleadership.org.

Eligibility for Future Trainings

By earning The Center for Self Leadership’s certificate of completion for this training, a participant is eligible to apply for a Level 2 IFS training program. Participants are not required to be Certified IFS Therapists or Certified IFS Practitioners to enroll in IFS trainings.

To Apply

Who Should Apply: Both therapists and non-therapists are invited to apply, and we welcome applications from:

- Mental and medical health care practitioners
- Pastoral counselors
- Business and academic professionals
- Masters or doctoral students
- Dance, art, and music therapists
- Body workers
- Those from the professional public seeking personal and spiritual growth
- Anyone seeking a community of like-minded professionals

Application Form: Please use the application form for this training found on our website.
Continuing Education Contact Hours

- This training program is co-sponsored by The Center for Self Leadership and The Institute for Continuing Education.
- A total of 108 Continuing education contact hours are offered.
- CE hours are awarded on a session-by-session basis, with full daily attendance required.
- The processing fee is $75.00 and covers all scheduled course sessions.
- Applications for continuing education contact hours will be available at the initial Course session, along with other pertinent continuing education information.
- **IMPORTANT:** Please be sure to bring a check and your license information (as applicable) to the first session if you want CE credit for this training. No cash or credit cards can be accepted. Your last chance to sign up for CE is at the training’s second session, but if you sign up at that time, please note that processing your CE paperwork will likely be delayed.
- **If you have questions** regarding continuing education, or for a list of learning objectives, please contact The Institute for Continuing Education: 800-557-1950. Email: instconted@aol.com.

**Psychology:** The Institute for Continuing Education is approved by the American Psychological Association (APA) to sponsor continuing education for psychologists. The Institute for Continuing Education maintains responsibility for this program and its content.

**Counseling:** For counselors seeking credit, The Institute for Continuing Education will submit a co-sponsorship application to NBCC for this program.

**Social Work:** The Institute for Continuing Education, Provider 1007, is approved as a provider for social work continuing education by the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB), www.aswb.org, through the Approved Continuing Education (ACE) program. The Institute for Continuing Education maintains responsibility for the program. ASWB Approval Period: 04-13-2015 - 04-13-2018. Social workers should contact their regulatory board to determine course approval.

**Marriage-Family Therapy:** The Institute for Continuing Education will submit an application to the MA/RI Boards MFT for pre-approval of this program.

Required Pre-Training Reading and Other Materials

1. **Reading Materials:** All books listed below are available at The Center for Self Leadership’s website store (www.selfleadership.org). Bundle pricing may be available. If you need assistance with the Store, please call 708.383.2659 or email Sandy@selfleadership.org.

   **Required reading before the training begins:**


Suggested reading before the training begins:

Schwartz, RC (2001), Introduction to the Internal Family Systems Model, Oak Park IL: Trailheads Publications, The Center for Self Leadership, ISBN 0-97211480-0. This book is required reading for those with no prior experience with the IFS model. Class content is designed on the assumption that the reading is completed.

2. Additional Training Materials: Each program’s trainers may ask participants to purchase up to $20 in additional training materials. If additional training materials are required, participants will be notified as the starting date of the training approaches.

Financial Assistance

Payment Plans: Extended payment plans are available as listed on the program application. If you have questions about the plans, please contact CSL Controller, Mary Mitrovich, at mary@selfleadership.org.

Tuition Discounts:

- CSL offers group discounts for employee groups and student groups. Please visit the website Training FAQ page for details and application forms. The more people in your group, the larger the discount!
- CSL also offers an individual scholarship program. More information and the application form are available on the website's Training FAQ page.

Costs for this training may be tax-deductible: Please consult with your tax advisor.

Employers can also be a good source of funding for continuing education. Please check with your supervisor and/or human resources department.

Tuition and Fees

Program Tuition: $3,650 ($500 of which is the program deposit)

Program Deposit: The $500 deposit is charged when you are accepted into the training, and this secures your place. Flexible payment plans are available for the balance (see program application for details).

Room and Board are not included in tuition.

Application Fee: A $45 non-refundable application fee is charged when your application is received.

Withdrawal/Refund Policy: Participants who wish to withdraw from the training program must do so in writing. Participants are responsible for paying for sessions attended or missed prior to withdrawal. Deposit: The $500 deposit is refundable if written notice of withdrawal is received by the CSL office 45 or more days before the 1st day of the program. The deposit is transferable to another CSL-organized Level 1, 2, or 3 training program if written notice of withdrawal is received by the CSL office 44-15 days before the 1st day of the program. A transferred deposit must be used within 18 months of withdrawal or else it is forfeited; a transferred deposit may only be used by the participant who is withdrawing. The deposit is forfeited if written notice of withdrawal is received by the CSL office 14 or fewer days before the 1st day of the program, or if withdrawal occurs after the program begins. Tuition Balance: The tuition balance (total tuition less deposit) is refundable if written notice of withdrawal is received by the CSL office 8 or more days before the 1st day of the
program. One-sixth (1/6) of the tuition balance is forfeited if written notice of withdrawal is received by the CSL office 7 or fewer days before the 1st day of Session 1, and 8 or more days before the 1st day of Session 2. The full tuition balance is forfeited if written notice of withdrawal is received by the CSL office 7 or fewer days before the 1st day of Session 2. The application fee and payment plan carrying fee are non-refundable. CSL reserves the right to postpone, cancel or otherwise change any training program schedule prior to the beginning of Session 1. At no time is CSL responsible for training students’ travel, lodging, or incidental expenses.

**ADA** If you have special needs, please contact The Center for Self Leadership.

**TRAVEL INFORMATION**

**Training Site:** Watertown Center for Healing Arts  
17 Spring Street  
Watertown, MA 02472  
www.watertowncenter.net

If you need additional travel information, please visit websites such as MapQuest or Google Maps.

You may wish to visit priceline.com, orbitz.com, kayak.com, or other websites to find travel deals for airfare, hotels, rental cars, etc. While CSL is not affiliated with any of these sites, many people have success with them.

**AIRPORTS:**

Logan International Airport  
Airlines served: All major airlines  
Approximately 20 minutes from site.  
For directions from Logan International Airport click HERE.

**DRIVING and PUBLIC TRANSIT:**

For driving or public transit directions from…  
- Boston click HERE.  
- Brockton click HERE.  
- Faringham click HERE.  
- Lowell click HERE.

**TRAINS (Amtrak) if applicable:**

For Amtrak information please click HERE.

**SITE PARKING:**

There are a few parking spaces on Spring Street and a large parking lot one block up on the left side. To get to the Center, walk back to Spring Street and turn right heading back the direction you drove in. There is an Italian Design Furniture store across from the parking lot, then Verona’s Italian Restaurant, and then the entrance to the Center. There is a small sign for the Center on the door. Come inside and through the glass paneled door on the right, up to the second floor and the teaching space.
MEALS:
To see restaurants in the area please click HERE.

LODGING:
For lodging near the site please click HERE

THE CENTER FOR SELF LEADERSHIP
www.selfleadership.org

Phone: Level 1, 2, 3 Trainings in the US and Canada: 708.383.2519  
Level 1, 2, 3 International Trainings: 708.845.1664  
IFS Certification: 828.215.6307  
IFS Store, IFS Circle & Everything Else IFS: 708.383.2659

Fax: 708.383.2399

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 3969, Oak Park, IL 60303

Email: Level 1, 2, 3 Trainings in the US and Canada:
        training@selfleadership.org or Maryanne@selfleadership.org
        Please write to only one email address at a time - thanks!

        Level 1, 2, 3 International Trainings: Karon.Brashares1@gmail.com

        IFS Certification: certification@selfleadership.org

        IFS Store, IFS Circle & Everything Else IFS: info@selfleadership.org