

# **THE SECURE BASE-SAFE HAVEN OBSERVATION/CODING SYSTEM<sup>©</sup>**

## **A 5-day Evidence-Based Training Course Using The Circle of Security<sup>®</sup>**

**Presented by William Whelan, Psy.D., Co-Director**

**The Mary D. Ainsworth Child-Parent Attachment Clinic**

### **Course description**

Dr. Whelan will present a 5-day workshop, based on the Circle of Security<sup>®</sup>, for clinicians and researchers interested or involved in evidence-based assessment of the relationships between children and their caregivers. The goal of this workshop is to train professionals in standardized observation and coding of attachment/caregiving patterns using the Circle of Security<sup>®</sup> as a map. The results of this observation method can directly be used as concrete goals for treatment, and for ongoing assessment of treatment outcome. This method is typically less expensive and easier to learn and implement than traditional attachment research-based procedures.

This coding system focuses on interactions in the following areas: patterns of child attachment to the caregiver, patterns of caregiver behavior in response to the child's attachment behavior, including the caregiver's ability to soothe and organize the child's emotions and behavior, and support the child's exploration, learning, and competence.

Participants will:

- Review videos of separation-reunion procedures (Strange Situations) between parents and children ranging in age from 1 year to 14 years of age.
- Learn how to observe, describe, and code child-parent interactions relevant to attachment, exploration, behavior management and emotion-regulation.
- Practice using the Circle of Security<sup>®</sup> as a developmental map for identifying attachment-caregiving patterns and for developing concrete treatment goals.
- If they wish, participants will have the opportunity to practice observing and coding attachment-caregiving behavior after the training week (via practice tapes), and work toward certification in observation/coding reliability. Although participants are not required to become certified to a level of reliability, some may choose to do so.

Following the workshop, those who wish to pursue certification may request a series of practice videos to be completed in preparation for taking the certification test. The certification test consists of the coding of 12 Strange Situations and requires a minimum score of 75% correct.

# REGISTRATION FORM

## Secure Base-Safe Haven Observation/Coding System

Phone: 434-984-2711 Fax: 434-984-2721

**Course Instructor:** William Whelan, Psy.D.

**Dates:** May 14-18, 2012

**Time:** 9:00 AM – 4:00 pm each day

**Location:** Denver location to be announced

**Course Fee:** \$1,250 by check made Payable to: **The Ainsworth Attachment Clinic.**  
(\$749 for currently enrolled graduate students)

**Who Should Attend:** Participants must be M.A. or Ph.D. level professionals. Previous exposure to the Bowlby-Ainsworth theory of attachment, and/or the Circle of Security, would be helpful but is not mandatory. Note: participants who want to continue after this training to learn one of the Circle of Security treatment protocols must be licensed or license-eligible as a mental health provider.

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_ **DEGREE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**OFFICE PHONE:** ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ **FAX:** ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

**E-MAIL:** \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*\*Complete and fax this registration form to 434-984-2721.\*\*\***

**Registration questions about the course may be directed to Kate Whelan at  
434-984-2711 or [kcw.attachmentclinic@gmail.com](mailto:kcw.attachmentclinic@gmail.com)**

**Questions about the content of the course may be directed to Bill Whelan  
Email: [whelan@virginia.edu](mailto:whelan@virginia.edu)**

No refund will be given for cancellations however a spot in future trainings will be offered. A *Certificate of Completion* will be offered at the end of this course.

## Ainsworth Attachment Clinic Faculty

**Robert S. Marvin, Ph.D** is a developmental and clinical psychologist who specializes in families who have children with relationship or developmental problems. He was a student and friend of Mary Ainsworth and John Bowlby, and collaborated with them for many years.

Bob received his Bachelor's degree at the Johns Hopkins University, and his Master's and Doctoral degrees from the University of Chicago. He completed post-doctoral fellowships at the University of Minnesota and the University of Maryland Medical Center in Baltimore. He has been teaching and conducting clinical work and research at the University of Virginia since 1972. Currently he is founder and director of the Mary Ainsworth Child-Parent Attachment Clinic, Professor Emeritus at the University of Virginia School of Medicine, and more recently has been a research professor in the Department of Psychology.

Over his career, Bob has collaborated with other clinicians and scientists around the world in developing numerous procedures for assessing infants' and children's attachments to their caregivers in normally-developing and high-risk populations. He has also developed a number of evidence-based intervention protocols for high-risk children and their caregivers.

**William F. Whelan, Psy.D.** is a clinical child & family psychologist specializing in work with families who are having emotional/behavioral (relationship-based) problems with their children due to developmental disorders, family stress, or loss and trauma. He is Co-Director of the Mary D. Ainsworth Child-Parent Attachment Clinic in Charlottesville, Virginia.

Bill received his Bachelor's degree from The University of Chicago, and has done graduate training in psychology at Chicago and The College of William and Mary where he received his Doctoral degree. He completed a clinical internship and postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Virginia Medical Center.

After his fellowship, Bill joined the faculty of the University of Virginia School of Medicine (where he worked for 14 years in Pediatrics and Psychiatric Medicine), and more recently has been a research professor in the Department of Psychology. He provides teaching and consultation services to psychologists, social workers, and physicians across Virginia, in other areas of the country, and overseas. He is involved in several research projects to develop assessment instruments and evidence-based intervention protocols for at-risk children and their caregivers, and was recently principal investigator for NICHD funded research about healing in foster and adopted children. He provides intensive training courses in the pre-school attachment coding system, in videotape-based assessment of attachment-caregiving interactions, and in treatment of high-risk attachment-caregiving patterns.