

Children Focusing in Gaza Planning meeting 19/8/2011 - Hatfield

This meeting was to prepare the action plan for delivering the first phase of the Focusing Project to Gaza in November 2011 and the second phase in February 2012.

Mary Jennings, Lina Geha, Simon Kilner, Jerry Conway, Mohamed Altawil. David Harrold attended for part of the meeting

1. Children Focusing Course –

We undertook 1.5 days training in Children Focusing led by Simon including:

- Name pictures - activity 1
- Clearing a space - skill 2
- Felt sense - Qualities of an object - Skill 1
- Qualities - describing what is inside
- Animal puppets - animal qualities, animal conversations

Further sessions are planned: Sept 24th - 26th and Nov 25th - 27th 2011

Trainers: Jerry and Mary. Support and Translating: Lina and Mohamed

We need to check size of the training room to determine numbers we can train - prefer people seated without tables in a circle. A larger training room would be needed in February allowing more space for movement and training materials.

Target Group: 4 people we have selected. Social workers, family workers, and animators from PTC and other organisations. Total to be trained 16 - 18 people.

2. Overall programme for Children Focusing Companions in Gaza.

- Focusing Foundation November 1st - 4th - an introduction to using Focusing for yourself
- An introduction to Children Focusing February 13th - 17th, 2012
- Supervised practice February - September 2012
- Children Focusing part 2 - completing the Children Focusing Certificate - Autumn 2012

We agreed to call the programme Children Focusing rather than Family Focusing in line with the certification process agreed with the Focusing Institute.

Roles and responsibilities

Jerry - Project leader

Simon - Course leader Children Focusing

3. Translating

Mohamed has commenced the translation of children focusing materials and is running out of time to do this. He will ask Lina if she could assist with this.

4. Working with Trauma

Mary asked what we needed to know about referring people on who need something more than Focusing. It was agreed that we would have a meeting each day to discuss progress and individual concerns. Jerry suggested the importance of teaching 'Presence Language' early on in the training.

5. Children's Art

David showed us examples of Children's Art from Gaza. An exhibition of this artwork will be displayed in Tottenham. We were asked if we could deliver Trauma Teddies to Gaza.

<http://www.tightknitworld.net.au/KnittingPatterns/TraumaTeddyPattern.pdf>