Saturday, March 2, 2013

WILL TALKING MAKE IT WORSE?
CREATING FAMILY CONVERSATIONS IN THE CONTEXT OF CHRONIC & LIFE-SHORTENING ILLNESS
Evan Imber-Black, PhD

Serious chronic or life-threatening illness of a member can cause family-wide emotional freezing. Unspoken feelings of fear, uncertainty, ambivalence, guilt, shame or resentment go underground, and tensions related to taboo and secrecy surface. As painful conversations become unavailable, so, too, do opportunities for celebration, joy and transformation. Relationships suffer as family members grow out of sync with one another – an ill parent feels stuck in the present, with no vision of the future; a well spouse imagines the future alone but cannot speak of it. Children experience anxiety and confusion in a context of the unexpressed and unknown.

This workshop will demonstrate how to help family members begin talking with one another more openly, examine their own values and beliefs related to illness taboos, and work together to deal with the emotional and medical consequences of serious illness. The power of meaningful rituals, including the dynamic interaction of rituals and secrecy, to heal and transform relationships will be highlighted. We will thread the experience of illness in the therapist's own family-of-origin and current family as we examine effective therapy.

Evan Imber-Black, PhD, is Director, Center for Families & Health, and a Senior Faculty Member at the Ackerman Institute for the Family in New York City. The Center for Families & Health delivers training, consultation and systemic therapy for families who have one or more members with a chronic or life-threatening illness. She is also Professor & Director, Marriage & Family Therapy Program at Mercy College. She maintains a private practice in Couple & Family Therapy. She is also Professor, Department of Psychiatry, Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Bronx, NY. where previously she was Director of the Family & Group Studies Program, providing systemic training to psychiatric residents, and was Founder & Director of Einstein's Urban Institute for Families & Family Therapy and provided live supervision for front-line mental health workers in clinics and hospitals.

Dr. Imber-Black is past editor of Family Process, (2004-2011), the major scholarly journal in family systems research & family therapy; and past president of the American Family Therapy Academy. She is recipient of AFTA’s Award for Distinguished Contribution to Family Therapy Theory & Practice and American Association for Marriage & Family Therapy (AAMFT) Award for Cumulative Contribution to Marriage & Family Therapy.

Evan is one of the most highly regarded and inspiring presenters, weaving her vast clinical experience and case illustrations into her valuable practice framework. Throughout her internationally recognized career, Dr. Imber-Black has made major contributions in thematic areas that cut across different models of practice, including Families and Larger Systems, Family Rituals and Family Secrets. She is the author of over 50 original papers, and several books, including: The Secret Life of Families; Secrets in Families and Family Therapy; Rituals for Our Times (with Janine Roberts); Rituals in Families and Family Therapy (with Janine Roberts and Richard Whiting); and Families and Larger Systems.

Married to Lascelles Black, MSW, LMFT, Evan is most proud to be the grandmother of Josie, 15; Lois, 12; and Zane, 11, who have helped her to know that generativity is the core value she wishes to bring forth in her work and in her relationships.

Schedule: Registration 8:30; Workshop 9am – 4pm (CECs 6 hours)
Location: 20 N Wacker Drive: 6th Floor

To register online go to: http://www.ccfhhchicago.org/training/workshops/imberblack03022013

OR Fax to (credit card registrations only): 312-372-4732

Name: ____________________________
Degree/License: _______________________
Address: ____________________________
City: __________________ State: __________ Zip: __________
Home Phone: __________________ Work Phone: __________________
Email: ____________________________

Workshops:
☐ Will Talking Make It Worse? – Evan Imber-Black, PhD – March 2nd

Registration:
☐ Workshop Before Feb 1 After Feb 1
☐ Groups of 3 or more $110 $120
☐ Students (with school ID) $60 $70

Payment Options:
☐ Check Enclosed (Payable to CCFH)
☐ Credit Card (Visa or MasterCard)

Card Number: ____________________________ Exp. Date: ____________________________
Signature: ____________________________

CECs (6 hours per day)
☐ LCSW/LSW #
☐ LMFT #
☐ LCPC/LPC #
☐ Certificate of attendance

The Chicago Center for Family Health is an approved provider of continuing education credits (CECs) by the Illinois Dept. of Professional Regulation for social workers (LCSW/LSW), licensed marriage & family therapists (LMFT), & professional / clinical counselors (LCPC/LPC).