

Workshop “Engaging of whole child” with Bonnie Bainbridge Cohen, September 17 – 21, 2014

Partner meeting, September 22, 2014

Bratislava, Slovakia, organized by Babyfit

Participated partners: Babyfit Slovakia (Anka Sedlacková, Angelika Kovacova, Saska Streitova), SOMA France (Thomas Greil, Carla Bottiglieri, Nathalie Bailleau, Anne Garrigues, Catherine Pirat, Marie Foulatier, Anne-Catherine Nicoladze, Milena Gilabert, Marie-Cecile Paris), Leben Italy (Gloria Desideri, Danila Anzelini, Laura Banfi, Roberta Bassani), ArtMan Hungary (Ferenc Kalman, Ildiko Bota, Bernadett Jobbagy, Sandor Szucs), EMA United Kingdom (Katy Dymoke, Lisa Dowler, Paula Hampson)

The idea of this event originated back in June 2011 at the workshop with Bonnie Bainbridge Cohen in Italy, where we were talking about possibility of creating an education for BMC graduates interested in the work with people with special needs. We spoke about form of BMC program, something like IDME3, but than also come to a lot of issues to discuss and and Bonnie said that she is ready for it. We started to plan for 2014 and during this process also idea for SPARKS project came up. So for us this event was very special and we were very happy that our colleagues from SPARKS partner organizations could be part of that. Due to the fact that SPARKS partners arrived pretty late before the workshop we only met in the morning of the workshop. The first meeting we had after the first day of workshop. We spoke about focus and topics of our participation in the workshop: What do I observe? How do I interpret it? What resonates with my experience?
„Different perspectives creates richness.“

Workshop lasted for 5 days and was open for people who graduated BMC Practitioner and IDME program. Bonnie agreed to give exceptions for members of SPARKS partners. She worked every morning and afternoon with one child (some of the children came twice) and out of that session came out the topics for the group to work on.

Each child has the greatest experience and understanding of the unfolding of their own life's path from the perspective of their soul and spirit. Why have they come with their special strengths and challenges? What gifts are they offering us as individuals and humanity as a whole?

This perspective is of the utmost importance if we are to be fully present and to engage with them at the deepest level of perception and to facilitate their highest potential. We look to them for our own understanding through our relationship and dialogue with them combined with all the other resources available to us. Physically, emotionally, mentally and spiritually we develop a more profound knowing of them and of ourselves. What do they bring to us and what do we offer to them?

Bonnie Bainbridge Cohen