



Australian Association for  
Infant Mental Health  
West Australian Branch

## "HIGH RISK INFANTS - PROMOTING INFANT MENTAL HEALTH IN THE CHILD PROTECTION SYSTEM"

Presented By **Dr Raffaella Salvo**



*In Western Australia almost half of the children in out of home care are under the age of four. In 2016 the Department for Communities – Child Protection and Family Support identified the need for culturally sensitive, relationship-focused and infant mental health informed child protection practice. Specifically, staff required observational skills guided by a relational and developmental framework when assessing parent-child interactions in vulnerable, high risk child protection cases. A two-day training package was developed that focuses on the relational components of babies and young children's emotional wellbeing and helps workers to embrace a sound developmental framework while observing vulnerable infants/young children in interaction with their caregivers. This paper will present details of the training package and a reflection on the journey so far.*

Dr Raffi has 25 years experience as a clinical psychologist and psychotherapist specialising in working with parents in the perinatal period, parent-infants, children and adolescents. Raffi holds a doctorate from the University of Padua - Italy and completed part of her doctoral studies on attachment at the Anna Freud Centre in London - UK. She currently is a senior lecturer in Perinatal and Infant Mental Health and Clinical Psychology postgraduate courses at Edith Cowan University. She is also a Senior Consultant Psychologist with the Department of Communities - Child Protection.

Raffi continues to work with families through her private practice at Lifespan Psychology where she works within a psychodynamic, attachment and trauma-informed framework.

**Thursday, 8 August 2019**

**Cost:** AAIMH WA Members \$20/Non-members \$40  
Full time students/AAIMH WA Members \$10/Non-members \$25

**RSVP:** Please visit [www.dramatix.com](http://www.dramatix.com) "Upcoming Shows"  
You will be able to purchase tickets online until 6pm on the night of the event.

**NOTE:** There will be no cash sales on the night.  
If you have queries about making the payment online, please contact [aaimhiwatraining2@gmail.com](mailto:aaimhiwatraining2@gmail.com)

**Rural clinicians are invited to join for free via teleconference**  
Please RSVP to Cherie Braden [aaimhiwatraining@gmail.com](mailto:aaimhiwatraining@gmail.com)

**5:30pm** Drinks and light supper  
(Gluten free and vegetarian options available)

**6.00-6.30pm AGM**

**6:30-8pm** Presentation and discussion

**VENUE:**

The Boulevard Centre, Floreat Boulevard  
99 The Boulevard, Floreat

**CAR PARKING:** There is a 3 hour parking limit on the top level at Floreat Forum Shopping Centre

*Competencies Allocated:  
Direct Service Skills:  
Observation & listening  
Screening & Assessment*



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[www.aaimhi.org](http://www.aaimhi.org)