# Community Education Series

The Recovery Village and Advanced Recovery Systems





#### **Presentation Topic:**

Where You Look Affects How You Feel: Brainspotting and the Healing Process

#### Speaker: Shaina Feingold, LCSW



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#### About the Speaker: Shaina Feingold,



DAVID GRAND, PhD

Shaina Feingold is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and Trauma and
Performance Specialist, with training in Brain spotting, TF-CBT, and other
somatic therapy strategies. She received her Masters in Social Work from
California State University, Los Angeles with a focus in trauma and forensics.
She has spent the bulk of her career working with adolescents and adults who
have a history of trauma or chronic stress. She has experience working in
residential substance abuse treatment, community mental health, and the school
system in Minnesota.

 Shaina recently opened Mindful Reflections in Boca Raton, Florida, to offer a new and liberating way of conducting therapy and performance coaching. Through Mindful Reflections, Shaina aims to redefine trauma, performance, as well as addiction, in order for clients to feel heard. She sees people for who they are, not what they have experienced. Shaina helps clients find their truth so they can take back their power.

#### What Brings You Here Today?







# **Objectives**



Discover the connection between addiction and trauma



Understand how Brainspotting can help in the healing process Learn how Brainspotting differs, yet complements, other therapy methods

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Understand why Brainspotting is effective







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# Trauma is anything that overwhelms the brain's ability to cope







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# Brainspotting





# **My Brainspotting Story**

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# What Is Brainspotting?

It is a brain-body, focused mindfulness, and relational therapeutic approach

Emphasizes the use of body sensations and the felt sense

Uses specific eye placements called brainspots to facilitate healing



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## The Eyes

- The eyes are an extension of the developmental brain and part of the central nervous system
- The eyes are complex and comprised of over 200 million working parts
- Almost 50% of information is obtained through vision



#### Where You Look Affects How You Feel



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#### I can do this on my own!!

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### So How Is Brainspotting Different Than Other Modalities?



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### **The Brain**



#### The Difference Between Other Therapy Methods

- Top-down approach (eg. CBT, TF-CBT, DBT)
- Bottom-up approach (Brainspotting, EMDR, SE, ART)



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### **The Goal of Brainspotting**



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#### **Common Questions**

**Does Brainspotting work over Telehealth?** 

Yes, I have been using Brainspottting online with clients since March and have seen great results.

How many sessions does it take to see a difference?

It varies person to person. However based on my experience people generally notice something within the first 6 sessions.

Will I have to relive my trauma?

No, that is the beauty of Brainspotting. While some sessions may feel uncomfortable, you do not have to relive your trauma to heal like many other therapy methods

Will Brainspotting feel like I am being hypnotized?

No, Brainspotting is not a form of hypnosis

Will Brainspotting help me forget about my trauma?

No, Brainspotting does not erase memories

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#### **BRAINSPOTTING: WHAT TO EXPECT**

- Your mind will wander-just follow it wherever it may take you
- There may be times when it feels like "nothing is happening"
- The discomfort may increase
- No session will be the same as the last



#### **Bilateral Music**

- Gentle nature sounds or soothing tones
- Moves back and forth from ear to ear to integrate the brain
- Helps with the healing process and allows you to go deeper

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#### **BRAINSPOTTING: HOW IT WORKS**

- Identify something mildly stressful
- Find where/how in the body you are experiencing that stress
- Cover one of your eyes
- Cover the other eye
- Which eye do you feel more stressed/activated?

#### With the more activating eye

- · Look to the left
- Look to the center
- Lastly look to the right
- Which direction do you feel the most stressed/activated?









At the eye position just notice anything and everything that comes up-don't try and change it, just follow!

# **About Me!**

- Certified Brainspotting practitioner
- ~10 years helping adults and adolescents overcome trauma and stress
- BA in Criminology and Criminal Justice from the University of Maryland, College Park
- MSW from California State University, Los Angeles



#### Contact Me

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# **Questions?**

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# **THANK YOU**

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