

Standards and Ethics for EASEL®

- Experiential Social Emotional Learning & Therapy-

A Case Study at the Conference
Linking rural development and social farming
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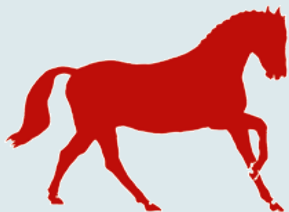
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Cavesson was founded in 1994 and the methodology of experiential social emotional learning EASEL® has been developed and applied since 1997 by the speaker and Savikko team with at-risk teens in alternative education (grades 7-9), expatriates in Beijing, children with behavior problems and their families, work counseling of groups and individuals, and corporate coaching and leadership training.

Since 2005, Cavesson has trained mental health professionals, social workers, teachers, and corporate coaches in EASEL®. There are 50 trained and 10 student facilitators in Finland and 15 from Belgium, France and Sweden are completing their training this year in Belgium. Five more are completing a second year and certifying as (60ECTS) Supervisor/Coach specializing in experiential and animal assisted social emotional learning methods. EASEL® facilitator training program has been ordered by Alternativa Driftsformer – project of four municipalities in Sweden to start in 2011.

The speaker has been involved in creating Standards and Code of Ethics for EFP in EFMHA (USA) and continues now in the newly formed workgroup to facilitate the merge of EFMHA and NARHA, and the development of EFL/EFP facilitator training in NARHA. She is a doctoral student at the University of Jyväskylä, Department of Psychology "EASEL in Family Work"

Facilities:

- Savikko Farm, Vihti, Finland
- Cavesson House - Haras de Baudemont, Ittre, Belgium



Who needs standards?

- Clients have the right to expect services that are helpful
- Service buyers need to be able to assess service quality
- Service providers benefit from guidance
- New service-providers need to know what is expected of them
- Animals have the right to be co-facilitating with and protected by skilled, professional people.
- Animals have the right to training and voluntariness
- Efficacy studies benefit from fixed elements
- Facilitator training programs develop further with goals
- Nature and Animal Assisted Learning and Therapy develop and get credibility

Quality services require the facilitator to have professional education AND methodology training in securing, facilitating and guiding the process of everyone involved towards each individual's personal goals and the general goals of the services.



GROUP

CO-FACILITATOR

FACILITATOR

CLIENT

HORSES

We have solved the situation like this:

Cavesson's multi-professional team of facilitators and trainers all have **minimum:**

- Professional qualifications to serve the clients we serve → insurances
- Long work experience in own field
- Supervisor / Coach training (minimum 60 ECTS)
- EASEL® facilitator training

Clients are sent by municipal social service (children and families), hospitals (therapists to facilitator training), corporates and government/municipal/EU organisations (facilitator training, leadership training) based on our:

- Professional qualifications and special skills / competences (approved & listed in relevant provincial / national / training-specific organisations)
- Unique, quality programs with strong theoretical basis and services that have shown results and high client satisfaction

The Animals we work with are taken care of, handled and trained in a certain way by only few people. Animals work in "working areas" and clients don't go to their private areas.

- We don't use outside stand-ins or short-term vocational trainees although cheap / free.
- Clients come with own accident insurance, horses have 3rd party liability insurance

We charge fees that we can live on and develop services and own competences further!

EASEL® - facilitator training program

Experiential Social Emotional Learning, Coaching, and Therapy

EASEL® offers structured and theoretically supported process descriptions, psycho-education tools, facilitation principles, and a progressive set of experiential activities. EASEL® model is used in therapy, psychosocial rehabilitation, personal and professional development, corporate and leadership coaching, special education programs, Green Care and Social Farming.

Training sites:

Savikon tila, Vihti, Finland

Rue de Baudemont, Ittre, Belgium

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Outline of the training ~ one year

3 x experiential workshops of 4 days each. Small groups formed based on professional background and interests. Personal training.

4 days of contact lessons on theoretical frame work and process descriptions, practicing facilitation, designing activities, and planning own client work

Practical work with own clients, supervision, writing term paper

4 days of contact lessons , presenting papers

Next training starts in Belgium 7th to 10th November 2010

Total of 30 ECTS Credits, incl. 1800 pages of literature

Prior requirements : license or professional qualification in education, health, social work, psychology / psychotherapy, or business coaching. If you wish to work with dogs and/or horses, a suitable own dog / horse is required.

Fee: 4000 € + vat

In Finland the training is arranged in collaboration with the Unviversity of Jyväskylä, Continuing Professional Education Center.

The training is tailored to support your work and professional development: individual facilitation as part of a group process, individual and group coaching, and personalized training content.

You gain information and skills essential for offering high quality services. You are coached to combine EASEL® with own professional background and frame-work.

Experiential social emotional learning and therapy, EASEL®, combines modern facilitation tools and principles from Solution-Focused coaching and therapy, DBT, DDP, SEL, Adventure Education and research in social neurosciences, to build a uniquely effective experiential facilitation method. In addition to your individual client's goals, EASEL® effectively enhances self-awareness, self-management, social skills and empathy, responsible decision making, joy, play and happiness caused by aesthetic, powerful experiences.

New doors lead to new sceneries...



Basic standards

- EASEL® facilitator is a title for a person certified by Cavesson / The University of Jyväskylä, Finland, in the use of EASEL® methodology in the context of the practitioner's own profession. The facilitator has been tested on relevant animal handling competences and showed understanding and application of EASEL's theoretical framework, tools, facilitation principles and experiential activities. The facilitator is responsible for maintaining the highest standards of own work quality, ethics and professional integrity.
- Facilitator is responsible for using EASEL® only in working with clients he or she is by other education credentialed (licensed, certified, etc.) to legally and independently offer services to. Alternatively, the participant can team up with a suitable professional. Participants maintain active membership in national / international professional organization(s) of own field(s).
- Facilitator is responsible for marketing own services and using EASEL® only within limits of own competence. It is the responsibility of the facilitator to provide clients the necessary documentation of licensure and insurance, to comply with their country laws, procedures and protocols of own professions, and ethics and standards set by all relevant organizations.
- To guarantee quality of own services, facilitator will regularly evaluate own professional strengths and limitations, and actively participate in continuing education and work counseling / supervision by a cert. supervisor personally familiar with animal assisted learning or therapy.
- Facilitator agree to share information and experiences to support each other and benefit the field at large. The facilitator treat other professionals with respect.
- Facilitator is professional in handling the animals he or she works with.
- Facilitator is trained in AAL/AAT and using only activities within own competence. Facilitator is responsible for ensuring that all personnel and volunteers offering with facilitator animal assisted learning or therapy are assessed for their ability to work with the program animals and that particular client population, oriented to the program offered, oriented to the needs of the specific clients with whom they assist and involved in a post-session processing.
- Facilitator strive to promote and model Ethical Animal Handling through own example .
- All work with animals is done wearing appropriate clothes and shoes, safety gear where appropriate (helmet for driving and riding etc.). © Oy Cavesson Ltd

Code of Ethics for Animal Assisted Interventions

- Emotional and physical safety of the animal and client are equally important.
 - Both have the right to say YES , NO and MAYBE LATER.
- Animals are cared for according to their personal and specie's basic needs
 - Animals are cared for by people who have adequate skills and guidance to meet their physical, mental and emotional needs
 - Healthy and content animal is calm and trusting
 - Calm and trusting animal is safe
 - Safe animal can teach people the desired things and help them heal
 - Only a calm and trusting animal learns from people
- Animal Assisted Interactions must be mutually beneficial.
 - The animals are not used, they work with a facilitators that they know and fully trust
 - Animals interact based on own free will and have the freedom to move to private space where clients don't follow
 - Animals are protected from fear, stress, loneliness and pain.
 - Clients are helped to calm down before they approach animals. Animals are not used to calm down people.