

International Trauma-Healing Institute
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Dear Friends of Somatic Experiencing®,

My name is Gina Ross and I am a senior Somatic Experiencing® faculty member of the Foundation for Human Enrichment. Some of you know me personally. Some of you may know me through my series of seven books, *Beyond the Trauma Vortex into the Healing Vortex*. I introduced SE® to the Middle East ten years ago, where currently we are working on an innovative project to use SE® to heal collective trauma in order to open a path for peace in the region. By reducing activation of the collective nervous systems of both the Israelis and Palestinians, we can facilitate conflict resolution in this volatile region.

I am writing today to ask you to support our endeavor. We need your help to pioneer our SE® research program in the Middle East, which will provide the necessary evidence-based data for SE® worldwide. This research can open the doors of academia, government bodies, NGOs and other institutions to the benefits of this wonderful tool and help the Middle East peace process, promoting collective healing and reducing hatred and violence.

On behalf of our efforts specifically focused on the Middle East, I ask you to make a donation toward the fund that will underwrite this vital research at www.paypal.com and send it to our International Trauma-Healing Institute (ITI) account at gina@ginaross.com.

A few thousand SE Practitioners have been trained over the years. If each one of us were to contribute \$100 we would have sufficient funding to conduct this vital research, helping millions of traumatized people; not only benefiting clients in our own private practices, and the SE community, but also helping transform society.

My own personal foundation, the International Trauma-Healing Institute, has committed to start the project with an initial \$5,000. We need contributions from all the SEPs around the world, as well as matching donations from other individuals, organizations, and businesses. The overall budget for the two essential controlled studies is \$200,000. All donations to the ITI are fully tax deductible. In the event that excess funds are collected that are not needed for this project, these funds will be donated to the Foundation for Human Enrichment, a 501(c)(3) non profit.

SE® has gained recognition outside of the therapist's office and has already worked its way through the public consciousness via Dr. Peter Levine's book and the wonderful work of the FHE Trauma Outreach Programs. Three EFA clinical data-based studies have confirmed what we all know:

SE® works!

It works well and it works compassionately on the individual level. However, applied systematically at the collective level through schools, hospitals, religious institutions, parents and media organizations, etc., it has the potential to transform the world!

Our model has identified various social sectors that interface with trauma, with the potential to amplify and/or to heal it. These sectors include the media, military, medical field, education and psychology, diplomats and NGOs, the clergy and the public. In order to reach a major part of the populations involved, SE® trainings must be introduced to these different sectors at the organizational and institutional levels in order to reach the most personnel, and to have the greatest impact at a national level. We have designed trainings and written materials for each targeted social sector. The educational and the mental health sectors have responded very well already, accepting the results of current clinical data. Other sectors, such as the media, the military and the medical field operate under the auspices of huge bureaucracies.

**Big bureaucracies require research! That is all that is missing for us, as SE® continues to gain traction in the Middle East and elsewhere throughout the world.
This is where we need your help. And time is of the essence!**

Even when these bureaucracies are very interested in SE®, because they have understood the importance of healing trauma, they require research data before they will consider a pilot training program. They have focused on integrating the cognitive behavioral techniques that have already been researched and have no access to body/mind oriented therapies because of the lack of research.

Our Middle East Team is ready with a proposal for the Israeli Ethics Committee to begin the research work required by the various sectors. We are fortunate to have Dr. Danny Brom, an internationally recognized leader in trauma research, to head our project. Dr. Brom helped me introduce Peter Levine and SE® in Israel 10 years ago. He is trained in SE® and is our colleague. We have Israeli SEPs ready to run a research trial in Israel, and an institution ready to supply the clients.

During my trainings I have personally seen SE® significantly help to diminish hatred and violence. As my Israeli and Palestinian students say,

"If SE® were spread in the Middle East, we would have peace!"

Indeed, they were always astounded that in the middle of war, suicide bombings, and the Intifada, they were able to experience an island of hope due to their SE® trainings. They were able to take this hope into their private and public lives and into their communities. They want to take it into their societies.

Please help us support the research and put SE® where it belongs - on the global map. Your generosity towards funding our research will help bring Dr. Peter Levine's incredible gift of SE® to the world!

With our hope for greater peace in the Middle East,

Gina Ross
Founder & President,
International Trauma Healing Institute
www.traumainstitute.org

Peter A. Levine, Ph.D.
Founder
Foundation for Human Enrichment
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Link for donation: www.paypal.com and send a donation to ITI's account, gina@ginaross.com