Lois S. Sadler, PhD, RN, PNP-BC, FAAN; MTB Co-Director and Training Faculty: A Professor at the Yale University School of Nursing and the Yale Child Study Center, Dr. Sadler received her BSN from the University of Massachusetts, her MSN from Yale University School of Nursing, and her PhD from the School of Family Studies at the University of Connecticut. Also a certified Family Life Educator, Dr. Sadler practices as a Pediatric Nurse Practitioner in a special school for pregnant and parenting students in the New Haven community. In her faculty role she teaches master’s and doctoral students, and mentors post doctoral fellows and junior faculty members. Dr. Sadler has been the recipient of multiple NIH grants and her scholarship focuses on the transition to parenthood among urban adolescent mothers and their families, adolescent pregnancy prevention, evaluation of specialized school-based support programs for adolescent parents, home visiting interventions for at-risk young families, and community-engaged research methods and ethics. She is Principal Investigator of the community-based inter-professional Minding the Baby® (MTB) home visitation program, currently in the final stages of efficacy testing. Her work with colleagues from the MTB program is currently being replicated with young at-risk families living in three urban communities in the United Kingdom, and sponsored by the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children.

Arietta Slade, PhD; MTB Co-Director and Training Faculty: Clinical Professor at Yale Child Study Center and Professor Emerita at The City College of New York, Dr. Slade is an internationally recognized attachment theorist, researcher, and infant mental health specialist. She received her BA from Sarah Lawrence College and her PhD in Clinical Psychology from New York University. Dr. Slade’s research on mother-infant attachment led to the development of The Parent Development Interview (with Aber, Berger, Bresgi & Kaplan, 1985), as well as the elaboration of the parental reflective functioning construct, both of which have had a significant impact in the field of infant mental health and attachment study. She has presented her research and clinical work around the world and is the author of over 60 articles and book chapters. She is editor, with Jeremy Holmes, of the Attachment Theory (SAGE Publications, 2013); with Elliot Jurist and Sharone Bergner, of Mind to Mind: Infant Research, Neuroscience, and Psychoanalysis (Other Press, 2008); and with Dennie Wolf, of Children at Play: Developmental and Clinical Approaches to Meaning and Representation (Oxford University Press, 1994). She has been a Co-Director of MTB since its inception in 2002, and is centrally involved in service delivery, supervision, replication, dissemination, development, and training.

Nancy Close, PhD; MTB Co-Director and Training Faculty: An educator and clinician, Dr. Close specializes in the assessment and treatment of children under age five. She received her BA from Connecticut College and her PhD in Education and Child Development at Bryn Mawr College. Dr. Close teaches Yale College students and fellows in training at the Child Study Center. The topics of her courses include child development, child psychopathology, developmental assessment and clinical evaluation, mental health consultation, and early childhood education. She conducts developmental assessments of young children and does dynamically oriented psychotherapy with children. In addition, she provides mental health consultation to early childhood education programs in the community. Dr. Close’s work includes a focus on reflective supervision in parenting programs that support parent-child attachment and the development of reflective functioning.
Denise Webb, MSN, APRN, PNP-BC; MTB Home Visitor and Training Faculty: Ms. Webb received a Bachelor of Arts in Music and Anthropology from Wesleyan University and worked as an early childhood educator for many years, prior to returning to school for Nursing. In 2002, she completed her certification as a Pediatric Nurse Practitioner and received a Master of Science in Nursing from Yale University. Denise has been actively involved in the MTB Program since its inception. She maintains a full-time home visitation caseload and has also worked with the MTB team to develop an introductory training on clinical approaches for reflective parenting programs that has drawn participants from around the world. She serves as a primary presenter for this training and co-authored accompanying training materials. Denise also serves as a consultant for a similar home visitation program in Florida and is an integral part of the Yale consult team for the MTB program replication effort now underway in the United Kingdom.

Tanika Simpson, MSW, LCSW; MTB Home Visitor and Training Faculty: Ms. Simpson has a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from Fairfield University in addition to a Master of Social Work from Rutgers University. Having practiced as a Licensed Clinical Social Worker in Connecticut for 15 years, Tanika also holds the CT Association for Infant Mental Health Endorsement in Infant Mental Health (IMH) as an IMH Specialist. Her background includes clinical experience in child and family guidance clinics, early intervention programs, early childhood mental health consultation with early care and education programs, and policy work at the state level. Tanika has been an MTB Clinical Social Worker for five years and maintains roles as clinician, consultant, and trainer. She is a member of the MTB Summer Training Institute Faculty and has been integrally involved in the replication of MTB in the UK. She is also currently pursuing a Doctorate in Family Studies through the University of Connecticut.

Crista Marchesseault, MAT, MA; MTB Project Director and Training Coordinator: Ms. Marchesseault holds a Bachelor of Science in Organizational Communications from Northeastern University; a Master of Arts in Teaching from Sacred Heart University; and a Master of Arts in Child Development from Tufts University, where she sharpened her expertise in developmental literacy and served as a home visitor for a school-based home visiting program with families of Kindergarteners in Somerville, Massachusetts. In addition to her work in teaching and academic research, Crista’s professional background includes work in public relations, nonprofit management, web development, professional editing, grant facilitation, and job training. Crista directs a variety of projects for MTB, including grant and budget management, training coordination, and administrative supervision for an interdisciplinary team of clinical and research staff.