



BREATHWORK as a Mental Health IN HARM REDUCTION SPACES

New Perspectives on Mental Health + Wellbeing

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WHY THIS MATTERS TO ME

• I am originally from **Barranquilla, Colombia** and my family fled the country **25 years** ago due to the war on drugs and seeks political asylum in the United States

Successful career in pharmaceutical sales (Addiction/Mental Health).

Advocate for reducing stigma — but saw the limits
 of meds alone.

- Breathwork changed my personal healing journey.
- Founded Cielo Breathwork: Safe, judgment-free space.
- We are the medicine.





HONORING THE SPACE

- Honoring all experiences + nervous system states.
- No performance, no pressure.
- Healing is personal, nonlinear, and rooted in dignity.





TODAY'S INTENTION

- Explore how conscious breathing supports mental health.
- Experience a simple yet powerful trauma-informed practice.
- Center dignity, choice, and community wellbeing.



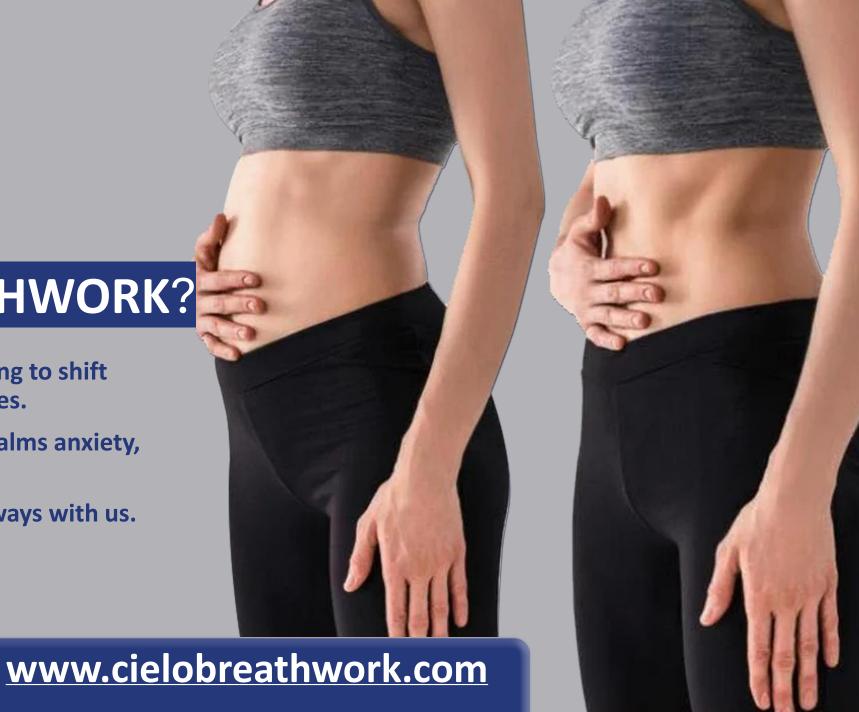


WHAT IS BREATHWORK?

• Conscious control of breathing to shift mental/emotional/physical states.

• Regulates nervous system, calms anxiety, reconnects to the body.

Breath is free, accessible, always with us.





TYPES OF BREATHWORK

• REGULATING BREATHWORK: Gentle, calming, supports daily wellbeing.

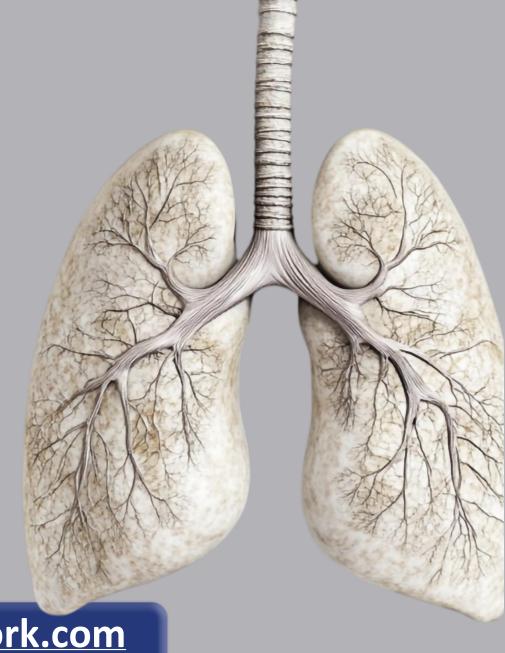
• TRANSFORMATION BREATHWORK: Deep emotional release, altered states, needs safe facilitation.

Today, we focus on regulation and accessibility.



WHY BREATHWORK MATTERS

- Trauma and chronic stress disrupt breathing patterns.
- · Breath becomes shallow or frozen.
- Conscious breathing reconnects body + mind, restores regulation.
- Healing the relationship with our breath, so it can help us get comfortable feeling our emotions safetly.





BRINGING BREATHWORK INTO HARM REDUCTION WORK

- •Self-regulation before/during/after outreach.
- Breath breaks during trainings or debriefs.
- •Breathwork for peer support, building community resilience.
- •Always an invitation, never a requirement.





CLOSING REFLECTION JOURNALING PROMPT

"One small way I can bring conscious breathing into my life/work is..."





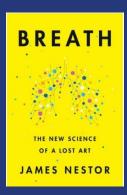




Resources + Thank you www.cielobreathwork.com

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RECOMMENDED READING



Breath – James Nestor



The Body Keeps the Score – Bessel van der Kolk



WE ARE THE MEDICINE.