

Global IIRP Concentric RP Circles



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Intention of the session

To inform about the Concentric Restorative Practices Circles project and global potential and to provide a clear pathway for participation

Intention of the project

To connect restorative practitioners sharing common interests in areas of work and research for innovating restorative implementations, collaborating on problem solving, and encouraging mutual accountability that forwards actions and produces intended results

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←
Apart, each is but one confronting the world; together, each one is unstoppable.



1:01:44



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Jeffrey Farr, 2012 IIRP alumnus and 10th grade English teacher for Washington County Public Schools in Hagerstown, Maryland expressed his appreciation for the potential of Concentric Restorative Practices Circles and his perceived concern about challenges confronting successful implementation (personal communication, October 8, 2018).

“Now that RP has largely hit critical mass, learning what worked and what didn't in successful implementations would help in my beleaguered efforts. This type of virtual circle and support group is one way of providing that contact and context for those of us still functioning as lone practitioners.”

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“As with most endeavors, however, groups like this can fall prey to reality triage: the need to sometimes forego the important for the urgent amidst the daily demands. In so many ways, we all face the challenge of being caught up in the good at the expense of the best, what Covey calls being stuck in the thick of thin things. All that said, having other eyes and ears examining what I'm doing might provide exactly that perspective necessary for such sorting.”

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Groups of 3-4 Engagement

Restorative practices areas of interest

1. Each will share your areas of interest and practice, and listen for alignment of shared concerns.
2. Share what obstacles or challenges you face.
3. We will stop for a conversation about the experience.


What is missing for successful endeavors

1. Express what you experience is missing for you that others might provide in support and accountability.
2. Express what contribution of knowledge and experience you have for collaborating with others.
3. Discuss the obstacles to a vital collaborative circle.
4. We will stop to discuss the potential of virtual circles.

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STRUCTURE

Interactive Real-Time Collaboration

- ✦ Adaptation of the “mastermind group” format
 - ◆ Origination in 1925 by Napoleon Hill
 - ◆ Zoom social media platform
 - ◆ Informed by restorative justice values and principles 
- ✦ “Originating circle” and “concentric circles”
 - ◆ Primary engagement for assessing interests and actions
 - ◆ Concentric circles created within the originating circle
 - Aligned interests and actions
 - Implementation contexts/geographical proximity
 - Applied or research focus
 - Concentric circles expansion

Zoom Sessions Scheduling and Roster Management

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DEVOLPMENTAL BENEFITS

IIRP Alumni and Students

- ✦ Mutual support and accountability for action and results
 - ◆ Implementation of practices and research
 - ◆ Additional engagement for students
 - ◆ Strategic planning and action
 - ◆ Increased experience in collaboration
- ✦ Envisioning, creating, and advancing “best practices”
 - ◆ Creative brainstorming and feasibility assessment
 - More focused and effective approaches
 - Negotiation and mediation skills, i.e., LSCI
 - Short-term and long-term formats
 - Self-sustaining initiatives
 - Research design and engaging experts

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IMPLEMENTATION CONTEXTS AND CONCERNS

Elementary and high school education

- ✦ Retroactive interventions addressing violence
 - ◆ Incidences of bullying
 - ◆ Restorative conferencing Conflict resolution
 - ◆ Supportive redirection interventions
- ✦ Preemptive strategies for extreme violence
 - ◆ Identification and assessment of extreme risk
 - ◆ Restorative conflict resolution approaches
 - ◆ Proactive reintegration approaches
- ✦ Sustainable RP Implementation of “whole-school change”
 - ◆ Enrollment and alliance with key agents of change
 - ◆ Engagement of staff—educator RP education
 - ◆ Student resistance to engagement

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IMPLEMENTATION CONTEXTS AND CONCERNS

Criminal Justice

- ✦ Interventions in departments of corrections
 - ◆ Prison and jail workshops
 - ◆ Conflict intervention and resolution
 - ◆ Officials and officers enlistment and orientation
- ✦ Community reentry
 - ◆ Prison exit and reentry programs
 - ◆ Family and community support enlistment
 - ◆ Integrated resources development
- ✦ Law Enforcement
 - ◆ Appropriate diversionary options in policing
 - ◆ Restorative engagement on community issues
 - ◆ Initial restorative responses to complaints

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IMPLEMENTATION CONTEXTS AND CONCERNS

Restoring Community

- ✦ Strengthening communities
 - ◆ Community forums for conflict mediation
 - ◆ Social work integration for high risk
- ✦ Reconciliation and reintegration/reparations/negotiation
 - ◆ Delegate representatives
 - ◆ Disenfranchised/underrepresented communities

Organizational Effectiveness

- ✦ Rapport and cohesion in the workplace
 - ◆ Perspective taking and crucial communication skills
 - ◆ Establishing common ground for conflict resolution
- ✦ Participatory leadership
 - ◆ Consensus formation and integrity with agreements
 - ◆ Effective team-building

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The collective creativity potential in meeting virtually expands our opportunities and provides the HIGH support and HIGH accountability for turning dreaming into actions, actions into results, and results into realizing a *new reality*.

- ✦ *Please provide your contact email address to receive follow-up information and to be included in our CRPC group distribution list for scheduling a Zoom session.*
- ✦ *Take my business card with email address to add to your address book and avoid my emails going to the spam folder.*



Thank You!

*Expanding a Global Community
of
Restorative Practitioners*