DIAMOND WOMEN’S PEACE LEADERSHIP TRAINING CIRCLE

VISION/MISSION

The vision of the Diamond Women’s Peace Leadership Training Circle is to ensure that women become leaders in all levels of peacebuilding, activating the individual and collective wisdom, power, and experience of women as peace leaders. The mission is to offer a spectrum of state-of-the-art customized training that fosters individual and collective action for building the capacity for women's peace leadership at the community, national, and international levels by: 1) Offering a multi-faceted leadership training program and 2) Building a collaborative network of engaged women change agents who are working towards peace in their communities. The goal is to grow a cadre of women who can consciously lead their communities through meaningful, creative action leading to positive systems change.

BACKGROUND

Diamond Women’s Peace Leadership Training Circle (Diamond Leadership) was formed in honor of Dr. Louise Diamond (http://www.louisediamond.com/) a nationally known peacebuilder and systems thinker with extensive experience working to bridge divides. This Circle of qualified trainers continues her legacy of Multi-Track Diplomacy, a systems approach to peacebuilding and conflict transformation. Diamond Leadership was created to promote and strengthen the role of women as change agents in peacebuilding and conflict resolution at all levels, in alignment with United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325. It has attracted professional trainers with diverse backgrounds and a common purpose to form a community of practice to carry on Louise’s legacy to train and empower women. The Consortium includes members from the Alliance for Peacebuilding, Institute for Multi-Track Diplomacy, Mediators Beyond Borders, Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice, International Civil Society Action Network.

TRAINING PROGRAM

Diamond Leadership adopts both 1) a holistic systems approach focusing on larger group and organizational life that develops each woman’s ability to see in interconnected wholes rather than in isolated parts and 2) a transformative leadership style, building on each woman's strengths and assets in her respective part of the system. The training provides a wide range of practical and necessary peacebuilding and leadership skills and UNSCR 1325 implementation skills at the local level. Individual modules can be customized to specific needs, budgets and timeframes:

1) **Systems & Power Dynamics**: This module provides an understanding of what a system is and how it interacts and connects between its parts, a woman’s role and capacity to impact that system, and how she can positively operate in it. This training draws from each woman’s respective position as a woman in her particular system and teaches her practical skills for working in that system to create positive change.

2) **Transformative Leadership**: This training provides an in-depth analysis of each woman’s individual capacity, including her strengths and assets, to affect change as a woman within her system. It offers skills and tools to empower herself as a leader within that system and to be true change agents who are able to guide, direct, and influence others to bring about positive systems change.
(3) **Peacebuilding Skills**: All change agents require peacebuilding skills in order to meaningfully work within a system. This training offers a wide range of practical skills in communication, negotiation, conflict styles, mediation, dialogue and restorative justice while integrating resiliency building and trauma informed practices. Effective use of these skills can positively influence relationships within a system and serve as a catalyst for creating meaningful systems change.

(4) **UNSCR 1325 Implementation**: This training discusses the specifics of UNSCR 1325, which was later followed by six additional Resolutions (1820, 1888, 1889, 1960, 2106 and 2122). Together, they frame the women, peace and security agenda. The training will include advocacy, communication & collaboration skills, how to build coalitions and work with the media, project planning and implementation skills, mainstreaming a gender perspective, and more.

**TRAINERS**

Diamond Leadership engages a collaborative international network of women change agents. By creating a consortium of peacebuilding organizations and connecting women peacebuilding practitioners from multiple sectors, the Diamond Leadership network affords women change agents the opportunity and means to work together and share resources, knowledge, and skills. Lead Trainers Include:

**Prabha Sankaranarayan** is the President & CEO of Mediators Beyond Borders, ([http://mediatorsbeyondborders.org/](http://mediatorsbeyondborders.org/)) an INGO whose mission is to build local skills for peace and promote mediation worldwide. Prabha is a conflict transformation consultant who has mediated, facilitated and trained in Europe, Asia, Africa and the USA. She designs trauma informed programs and multi-stakeholder processes in a wide range of contexts.

**Zahra Ismail** is a conflict resolution practitioner designing and managing violence prevention, peacebuilding & community mediation programs, designing curriculum and facilitating training in countries across the globe. She has worked with communities and individuals under threat to ensure their safety, mediated conflicts, facilitated dialogues, negotiated safe spaces, and developed successful programs focused on building community capacity in violence prevention and security.

**Sanam Naraghi-Anderlini** is co-founder of the International Civil Society Action Network (ICAN http://www.icanpeacework.org/) and a Senior Fellow at the MIT Center for International Studies. Sanam is a leading international advocate, researcher, trainer and writer on conflict prevention and peacebuilding, and was among the civil society drafters of UN SCR 1325 on women, peace & security. She has published extensively on gender, peace & security issues.

**Kimberly Weichel** is CEO of Peace X Peace (www.peacexpeace.org) and is an advocate for women’s advancement and empowerment. She is a trainer in leadership, conflict resolution and peacebuilding, and has worked with women in Africa, Asia, Europe and North America. Kim has facilitated interfaith dialogues, mediated conflicts, designed curriculum, developed/ led training programs, and written and spoken on gender, peace & security issues.

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