

OCTOBER 2015

the
Center for Ethical Leadership
Leadership Practices for Healthy Inclusive Communities



Fall Greetings!

*Executive Director
Hla Yin Yin Waing*

My daughter Asha called me after her first day back at Garfield High School. One of her new teachers had unexpectedly started her class by describing a powerful and transformative experience he had with other staff at Garfield called a Peacemaking Circle. She felt compelled to tell me he had not only been excited, but had said, "it was the best way to begin the school year."

Her teacher was referring to the staff leadership development retreat facilitated by our CEL team for Garfield HS last month. Close to 100 staff dedicated the first weekend in Sept to building the foundations for an educational community based on relationships of trust and understanding. The cascading benefits of CEL's life-giving work sometimes makes it wonderfully challenging to predict where the far-reaching impact inspired by our work will end. But recalling the excitement in Asha's voice, I am reminded that in our profound work of creating space for all voices to be heard and in building trust across boundaries, CEL's expansive work advances each ecosystem we work with in the direction of a healthier, more just and inclusive community...And THAT, as my 10th grade daughter picked up, is worth getting and staying excited about.

Celebrating New Community Partners: Tokyo Atago Rotary Club

This April, the Tokyo Atago Rotary Club, in collaboration with the Center for Ethical Leadership's Keiko Ozeki and the Seattle Rotary Club, launched Peacemaking Circle project for Immigrants and Refugees in Seattle. They plan to take Peacemaking Circle process back to Japan in order to support the immigrants/refugees living in Japan.

Save the Date!

Immigrant Peacemaking Circle (1 Day)

November 14, 2015
9:00 am -5:00 pm

Please contact Keiko Ozeki for more information

kozeki@ethicalleadership.org

206-328-3020

Intro to Peacemaking

December 3-5, 2015

Please contact Keiko Ozeki for more information.

206-328-3020



Garfield High School Seattle, WA



September 1-3, 2015

"I have been a teacher for over 20 years and I can't remember a better training to start off the year. We have never been provided time to get to know each other as people and colleagues." – Garfield Teacher

REFLECTIONS on GARFIELD from a KEEPER

September 1-3, 2015, I witnessed a cultural shift occur. Over 100 Garfield High School staff participated in a 3-day peacemaking circle that was kept by a collective of 16 community stakeholders including the Center for Ethical Leadership, King County (DAJD, PSB, Executive Office), community members, and educators. The event was held at DayBreak Star Indian Cultural Center.

The purpose of breaking into smaller groups is so that each person had a chance to speak and be heard on an intimate level through a series of activities and personal stories designed to build a relationship and create an understanding. Staff had an opportunity to voice issues, concerns, demonstrate passion, show enthusiasm, and express pride in being at Garfield High School. It was also designated time to self-reflect and realize why staff had stepped into their work in the first place. It was amazing to see the level of honesty and vulnerability shift over the 3 days.

~Marcus Stubblefield, King County



Policy Matters: CEL Partners with Seattle Communities as City Council Courageous Leads in a Bold New Direction

By Hla Yin Yin Waing

Recently, I was thrilled to hear that the Seattle City Council had unanimously passed, on September 21st, a resolution that fully endorses the goal of “zero-percent detention of youth” in favor of creating community-based alternatives, and called for the city to develop policies eliminating the necessity of their imprisonment. This is a significant step towards changing youth incarceration systems which are afflicted by systemic racial disparities in the way that youth detention is used. While the overall rate of incarcerated King County juveniles has actually decreased in the past few years, by the County’s own data, the proportion of youth of color -- Black, Hispanic, and Asian -- has actually risen during the same time period. In King County, minority adolescents are currently twice more likely to be placed in a detention center than their non-minority counterparts, despite making up less than 40% of the area’s youth population.

The creation of this momentous policy window has been many years in the making - generations in fact - by the hearts, minds, tears, sweat and blood of nameless community members from all sides, inside and out, visible and unseen. Imagine the tapestry of *all* that has helped to create *all* the conditions required to open this policy window. It is simply awe-inspiring. The threads of every individual who took the time, of every moment ripe with potential for conflict and peace, and of every story about gut-wrenching injustice, heart-break, soul-soaring courage and powerful hope for justice, interwoven with a myriad of strategies and approaches - illustrates how interconnected everything and everyone is. And given this, I want to thank the Center’s dedicated community partners in the Peacemaking Planning Team, Justice System Advisory Team, School Advisory Team, and the growing number of Peacemaking Circle keepers and participants for creating empathetic spaces in our communities and organizations for peacemaking and healing. Your collective leadership is helping to transform

mistrust into new openings and foster healthy relationship-building between communities and key institutions created to serve them, and I bet several of you directly influenced the streams that fed in to the opening of this important policy window. I want to also thank Keiko and Saroem for their work in leading the Center’s Peacemaking and Healing Initiative. They have touched many lives, helping to make connections and build relationships that become part of the currents for shifting paradigms.

It’s wonderful to see how the ripple effects of all our collective work in building the community’s capacity to use, and put in to application, the Peacemaking Circle process and principles is unfolding. Although our part in this intricate tapestry may be small and perhaps undetected, it is truly meaningful.



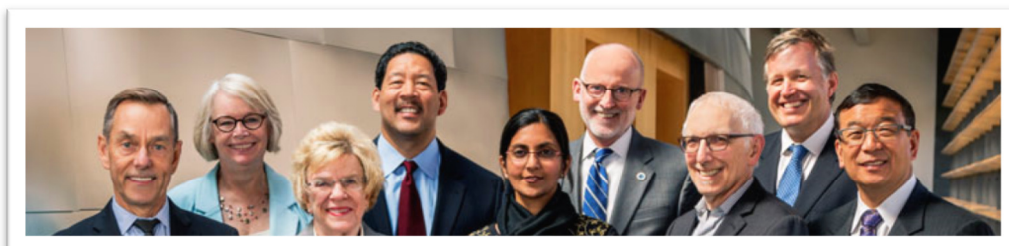
Executive Director

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Keep in Touch!

Thanks for being part of the growing international network that is the Center for Ethical Leadership community. We'd love to hear from you in the coming months, and in fact, don't surprised if you hear from us! Our communications office is ready to welcome your stories as we work to build healthy, just, inclusive community.



Sustainability

Community partners like you make our work possible. The Center for Ethical Leadership welcomes your financial partnership to cultivate the expanding impact of our transformative leadership development through programs like Gracious Space and Peacemaking Circles...here in Seattle, Tokyo, and beyond.

Please take a moment to check out our updates and make a donation at www.ethicalleadership.org or simply click below:



The Center for Ethical Leadership

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