



Youth Restoration Project

Cultivating Relationships, Restoring Community

2018 Symposium on Restorative Justice Practices



Victor Capellan, Superintendent of Central Falls Schools

Victor is a passionate advocate for education reform, dedicated to helping students from all backgrounds. As Superintendent of Schools in Central Falls, RI, he's implementing a district improvement effort called The Equity Blueprint for Success, focusing on four core elements – Student-Centered Learning and Teaching, Enrichment Opportunities, Social and Emotional Development and Cultural Responsiveness. He strongly supports the restorative work taking place in Central Falls, and is helping promote the expansion of restorative practices across the state.



Lauren Abramson, Ph.D., Restorative Response Baltimore

Lauren is a psychologist who has worked with children and families in communities for the past 25 years. She is the Founder and former Executive Director of the Community Conferencing Center in Baltimore, Maryland (now Restorative Response Baltimore). Her expertise includes mobilizing the existing untapped human assets in communities. Her organization's work has been groundbreaking for its multi-sector use of conferencing in highly distressed urban American communities.



Carolyn Boyes-Watson, Ph.D., Center for Restorative Justice at Suffolk

Carolyn is Professor of Sociology and founding director of the Center for Restorative Justice at Suffolk University. She holds a Ph.D. from Harvard University and has published many articles and books on restorative justice, juvenile justice and the criminal justice system. She's conducted training in restorative justice nationally and internationally, and works extensively with schools, juvenile justice systems and youth-serving organizations in New England to implement restorative justice. Her publications include *Peacemaking Circles and Urban Youth*; and *Circle Forward: A Guide to Building a Restorative School* co-authored with Kay Pranis.



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Symposium Facilitators

Victor Ramos is Director of Training for YRP and a part-time Restorative Coach at Calcutt Middle School in Central Falls. He previously worked as a Conference Facilitator for YRP's National Institute of Justice grant to do Restorative Conferencing in several Rhode Island schools, during which he received extensive RJP training.

Julia Steiny is the founder and Managing Director of the Youth Restoration Project. YRP provides training and consulting services to help schools and other organizations become high-functioning Restorative communities.

Story-Tellers

Nerise Beckford-Joly is the School Culture Coordinator for Nathan Bishop Middle School in Providence. Prior to that she worked as Supervisor and Conference Facilitator for YRP's NIJ grant. She resides in Pawtucket, RI and enjoys spending time with her family.

Patricia Rayces has been a science and special education teacher at Hope High School for the past 13 years. She received her Certificate of Initial Mastery in Restorative Practices after completing the YRP training program in December.

Randy Roberts has been a police officer in the Central Falls area for over a decade. As the Resource Officer in Central Falls High School he works with Restorative Facilitators and Specialists doing conferences, circles and mediations, giving insight into the workings of the police department.

Lesdin Salazar is a Restorative Specialist at Calcutt Middle School in Central Falls. Lesdin works to deescalate conflict and facilitate communication between peers, teachers or other individuals. She completed her Certificate of Initial Mastery training last summer.