

# RDC Professional Development and Community of Practice Schedule Fall 2019

- **September 13** *Community of Practice*, Old Council Chambers, 9:00-11:00 a.m.
- **October 8** *Community of Practice*, Location TBD 9:00-11:00 a.m.
- **October 17** *Restorative Overview* OSSE, Room 110 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
- **October 22** *Trauma Awareness and Restorative Steps to Brain Regulation*, OSSE, Room 109 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
- **October 29** *Pro-Active Circle Keeping* OSSE, Room 109 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
- **November 4 & 5 (Responsive Series)** *Responsive Discipline* OSSE, Room 108 & 109 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
- **November 12** *Community of Practice* Location TBD 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.
- **November 13 & 14** *Restorative Communication* Sumner, Room 101 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
- **December 6** *Restorative Justice & Special Education* OSSE, Room 110 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
- **December 10** *Community of Practice* Location TBD 9:00-11:00 a.m.
- **December 19 (Responsive Series)** *Restorative Justice & In School Suspension* OSSE, Room 108 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

**December 13**

**Transforming Culture and Climate Conference  
Gallaudet University**



**For Additional Information, Please Contact Jessica Dulay at  
Jessica.Dulay@dc.gov or Visit**

**<https://osse.dc.gov/page/restorative-justice-trainings-and-resources>  
for Updated Locations**



RestorativeDC



# PLUs are Available Through Post-Training Evaluation

## Community of Practice

The Community of Practice meetings offer opportunities to network, reflect and engage with others implementing restorative justice practices through the District. CoP dates are found below:

- **September 17: Community Building**
- **October 8: Bullying Awareness Through Restorative Practices**
- **November 12: Social Emotional Learning and Restorative Practices**
- **December 10: Responsive Discipline and Restorative Practices**

## October 17, Restorative Overview

This one-day experiential workshop will introduce teachers, administrators, school staff, students and all those who support them to restorative concepts and practices. Participants will explore the continuum of restorative practices, experience pro-active circles for strengthening relationships and social-emotional skill, and recognize restorative approaches as a means of shifting school culture and climate, and addressing systems of power and oppression. The overview will conclude with a planning session and information on how to receive additional support.

## October 22, Trauma Awareness and Restorative Steps to Brain Regulation

Our capacity to regulate our behaviors, deal with conflicts and be ready to learn depends on whether we are functioning in survival or safe mode. Our "base operating mode" is impacted by the safety and quality of the family, educational, and societal environments we grew up and still operate in. The capacity to regulate (calm) our nervous system is greatly impacted by the amount and layers of trauma that mark us and how we were supported through their resolution and healing (or not). This one-day interactive workshop will offer educators a space to reflect, share and integrate their experiences, as understand how the latest brain-science and interpersonal neurobiology understandings to grow a new trauma-informed lens on behaviors and conflicts. Participants will come away with greater capacity to create emotionally safe, supportive and healing connections and learning environments - and a restorative pathway to help self and others regulate their nervous system.

## October 29, Pro-Active Circles

This workshop is for teachers, youth workers, and other professionals who wish to incorporate community building to build community and facilitate circles at their school/organization/agency. Participants will learn the underlying assumptions, primary features, and basic process of community building circles through direct experience and reflection and have the opportunity to practice designing and keeping circles, receiving feedback on their skills and an informal assessment of their readiness to apply circles to their work. On the basis of this and the assessment, it is anticipated that most participants will be ready to serve as keepers for basic community building circles as an outcome of the workshop, but not more advanced responsive circles.

**For additional workshop and registration information please visit:  
<https://osse.dc.gov/page/restorative-justice-trainings-and-resources>**

## **November 4 & 5, Responsive Discipline**

This two-day workshop will introduce school staff, students and those who support them to restorative concepts and practices. Building relationships with students and staff are the foundation of restorative practices. Restorative discipline requires schools to create a “fair process” that will allow students to engage in a system that addresses needs and ensures a high level of accountability. Participants will explore the continuum of responsive restorative practices and their connection to strengthening relationships and social- emotional skills and understand the restorative approach to student behavior and discipline. Attendees will also learn about proactive and responsive strategies and procedures that are designed to decrease the behaviors that lead to referrals and suspensions and learn how to intervene appropriately when students disregard rules and school conduct policies.

## **November 13 & 14, Restorative Communication**

While restorative practices are primarily associated with the formal circles and conferences that may be implemented a few times per week, Restorative Communication can be used on a daily basis to build relationship and work with conflict. As such, it is a foundation to building a restorative culture of care and respect. This two-day workshop will help educators and youth workers identify ways that language used during difficult or disciplinary conversations may undermine intended outcomes, contradict our own values, and create disconnection with youth, peers, and colleagues. Aligned with the Positive Youth Development model and growth mindset, this workshop draws heavily from the model of Nonviolent Communication, which has been used throughout the world from schools to prisons, war zones to board rooms, to transform conflicts and discipline issues. It contains important distinctions not present in other communications approaches. The impact is to increase collaboration and empower individuals and groups to find successful solutions. Participants will experience communication in a new way, trying out innovative ideas and techniques in situations relevant to all educators. They will also receive follow-up resources.

## **December 6, Restorative Justice and Special Education**

Restorative Justice is a philosophy and approach to building community and responding to harm with roots in indigenous traditions. It is increasingly applied in schools all around the country to manage classrooms and create inclusive, socially connected, and supportive learning environments. We are committed to educating youth regardless of their social, emotional, physical, or intellectual abilities. Indeed, students with special needs and trauma make a significant part of our school population and are disproportionately represented in school discipline cases. Even where there is no formal diagnosis, students have different capacities for sustained attention, social awareness, intellectual cognition, emotional regulation, memory, and expressive and receptive language. This one-day experiential workshop will help teachers, administrators, and special education staff identify and accommodate these differences as an essential part of preparing for, keeping, and following up on responsive interventions such as responsive circles.

## **December 19, Restorative Justice and In-School Suspension**

This session will take a deeper look in school suspension and how school staff can transform the space, outcomes, and reflection through a restorative lens. Learn how this can be a viable practice that is trauma informed so that students can gain skills and tools to re-enter back into the direct learning environment. Participants will be able to learn how to transform the current way(s) that In School Suspension (ISS) are conducted and learn principles of “Time In”(reflection) vs. “Time Out” (exclusion) as a process to restore harm to the community. The materials provided in this session support schools as they implement discipline practices that are compliant with Student Fair Access to School Act.

**Implementation in Action:  
Transforming Culture and Climate  
December 13, 2019  
Kellogg Conference Center at Gallaudet University**

This conference will convene educators and stakeholders from DC Public Schools, public charter schools and partner agencies to attend and lead workshops that highlight practical strategies which contribute to a positive and inclusive learning environment.

Conference workshops will feature Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS), Restorative Justice, Trauma Informed Practices, Mental Health and Well-Being, Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) and Equity and Cultural Competence.

***For additional information, please visit <http://bit.ly/SchoolClimate2019>***

***Registration will open October 2019***



## **Restorative Coaching Program**

Do You Value -

- Empowering youth to take responsibility for their lives, goals and choices?
- Growing new skills for installing hope in others and yourself?
- Experiencing the passion and excitement that led you to choose Education?
- Resolving conflicts effectively in your professional and personal lives?
- Belonging to a community of caring professionals supporting each other?

Consider a personal (and free!) restorative coaching program that has a direct positive impact on your current work and relationships, reduces stress and increases ease in relationships, warmth of in-person trainings combined with convenience of optional online support, and coaching specific to what you want to accomplish!

**For additional information and application please visit  
<https://connectingandgrowing.com>  
or contact Jane Connor at [janemconnor@gmail.com](mailto:janemconnor@gmail.com) or 202.684.5974**