

CONFERENCE *Workshops*

PRESENTER: Hans Boserup has trained in the USA, Ireland and Germany, and introduced mediation to Denmark in 1993. He is a founding member of World Mediation Forum and chairman of the Nordic Forum of Mediation (Denmark, Norway, Sweden and Finland). He is a practicing victim-offender mediator, and has provided mediation training extensively in Europe. Hans has trained in the USA, Ireland and Germany, and introduced mediation to Denmark in 1993. He is a founding member of World Mediation Forum and chairman of the Nordic Forum of Mediation (Denmark, Norway, Sweden and Finland). He is a practicing victim-offender mediator, and has provided mediation training extensively in Europe.

PRESENTERS: Jerome Jackson is a Youth Outreach Specialist, Consultant for the City of Pittsburgh, Office of the Mayor - Youth Policy, a part-time Trainer with the Pittsburgh Mediation Center, and a trained VOM mediator. Morris Jenkins, JD, Ph.D., is the Associate Director of SOS Community Services in Ypsilanti, Michigan. He has presented numerous trainings on race, restorative justice, and diversity in mediation.

PANEL MEMBERS: Captain John Purdell, Instructor, West Florida Wilderness Institute, Ponce de Leon, FL, Vicki Shoap, Youth Accountability Conferencing Coordinator, Piedmont Dispute Resolution Center, Warrenton, VA, Jessica Eller, Program Director, Mediation Services of Tippecanoe County, Lafayette, IN.

PRESENTERS: Arwen Bird is the co-founder and now director of Survivors Advocating For an Effective System (SAFES), an organization of like-minded survivors who advocate restorative justice. In February of 1993, she and her sister were rear-ended by an intoxicated driver. Her sister was left with a mild traumatic head injury. Arwen is now paralyzed. Peter Serrell is a long time peace advocate and member of SAFES. Peter and his family participated in mediation with the woman who killed his daughter.

PRESENTERS: Mary Achilles was appointed as Pennsylvania's first statewide Victim Advocate in 1995. Since then, she developed a PA Department of Corrections victim input and notification program, an Impact of Crime Class for inmates, a Mediation Program for Victims of Violent Crime, and a model protocol for the supervision of domestic violence offenders under state parole. Lorraine Stutzman Amstutz is the Director of the Mennonite Central Committee's Office on Crime and Justice, an Associate of Eastern Mennonite University's Institute for Peace Building and a nationally recognized trainer in all aspects of victim offender mediation.

7. Advanced Techniques and Dilemmas in Mediation

Mediators use many ways to get information on the table and to help the parties define the problem. Many of the "standard" ways mediators use may actually be less useful and more self-directed than they realize. This workshop will ask participants to reconsider their "usual" ways and try some new ones. Examples: What are the pitfalls of getting information by asking questions? Why do we use linear, cause and effect summaries in a circular world? Does our agenda define the problem or does theirs? When is it useful to help parties focus on a narrow issue and when might they widen it?

THURSDAY AFTERNOON 3 HOUR WORKSHOP 1:15-4:30 PM

8. Victim Offender Mediation and Afro-centric Community Model

This Afro-centric process uses the African principles and values of Ma'at and Nguzo Saba to bring the community back into the circle of restorative justice. Truth, justice, balance, reciprocity, harmony, and unity are the foundation which allows victim, offender, and community to come together. This workshop explores the differences and similarities of this model to other VOM models, and the benefits of the Afro-centric model.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON 1.5 HOUR WORKSHOPS 1:15-2:45 PM

9. Innovative Practices in Working with Juvenile Offenders - a Roundtable

This interactive roundtable discussion will highlight creative practices that have developed in communities for dealing restoratively with juvenile offenders. Sample practices include a shoplifting program, community accountability conferencing, and a wilderness facility's restorative curriculum. Participants will have an opportunity to share their own practices, questions, and thoughts.

10. Restorative Justice Advocacy: Two Survivors Share Their Perspectives

Two survivors share their stories dealing with tragedy, healing and working for positive change in the criminal justice system. Peter Serrell and Arwen Bird have both been victimized and now consider themselves survivors. Soon after their individual tragedies, Peter and Arwen made conscious decisions not to remain in a place of anger or retribution. Each has worked to promote reconciliation.

11. Working with Victim Service Programs

This workshop will assist participants in forging closer working relationships with victim service programs and in gaining a better understanding of how victim service providers view mediation and the restorative justice movement.

*"The mediators didn't have to say much. We were having a good mediation, adult to adult"
... Offender*