**ADVISORY COMMITTEE SCRIPT**

**45 min**

**1) WELCOME PEOPLE INTO THE CIRCLE:**

As Danielle said, as we begin to learn skills using Restorative Justice Practices and how to more effectively deal with conflict, it is important to remember the foundation of this work. Relationships.

Restorative Justice Practices give us the tools to preserve relationships even while experiencing conflict or tensions because our relationships with each other are important to making real change in our community.

This activity today is a primary restorative practice called Community Building Circles and they are used to bring community together and to help mediate conflict.

**2) INTRODUCE THE CIRCLE GUIDELINES**

As circle keeper, I will be asking a few rounds of questions. My role is to hold space for the group and keep us moving. This practice is a practice of our ancestors. It is indigenous to many cultures.

There are 5 pillars that help us to honor the practice.

1. Honor the Talking Piece: The talking piece honors the speaker. Whomever is holding it, has the right to speak and be heard. The talking piece moves clock wise to each person and circle won’t ever be broken.
2. Speak from the heart:
3. Listen from the heart:
4. Trust that you will know exactly what to say
5. Speak without rushing but with consideration of others: Others will also need time to share their story.

**3) QUOTE:** To start off our circle, I wan to read you a quote from the late Cesar Chavez that speaks to community, relationships and the love for our children.

**We can choose to use our lives for others to bring about a better and more just world for our children. People who make that choice will know hardship and sacrifice. But if you give yourself totally to the non-violence struggle for peace and justice you also find that people give you their hearts and you will never go hungry and never be alone. And in giving of yourself you will discover a whole new life full of meaning and love.**  *Cesar Chavez*

*FACILITATOR SAY THIS: I will read statements and pass around the Talking Piece so we each can share their responses. Sometimes the questions will trigger memories that make bring us joy or sadness. Share only what you are comfortable with.*

**4) CIRCLE PROMPTS**

1. My name is\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and my favorite summer memory is…
2. The greatest piece of advice I have ever received is…
3. When I am in conflict…
4. Thinking about the last conflict I was in, I would change…

**THANK YOUR PARTICIPANTS**

Close by thanking everyone for sharing; Tell them:

This is the first of restorative practices and conflict transformation trainings. These types of circles can be used regularly to check in, strengthen our partnership and help us resolve conflicts.

Provided by Danielle Nava Consulting for ELA Partnership © 2017