



Dear PiRI Friends,

One of our New Year's resolutions is to share information about the great restorative work going on in the Rochester area more often. You are all part of this work! We invite you to share your stories, activities, pictures and articles of interest to help us tell our story and build our connections with each other. We will keep the e-news pieces brief and welcome extended pieces for our web site.

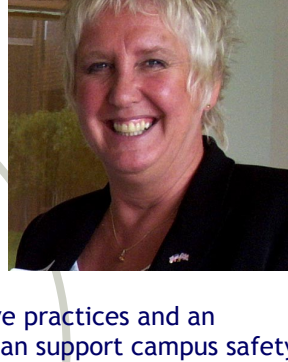
Happy New Year!

Restorative Policing Comes to Rochester

Constable Sandra Hastings, an expert in restorative community policing from the UK, is coming to Rochester in February to train Rochester Police Department and area college campus security and student conduct personnel. During the week of February 13th, Sandra will offer training for colleges that includes an introduction to restorative practices and an overview of how restorative justice can support campus safety and student interactions. The following week, the RPD School Resource Officers' and southwest officers' training will focus on restorative ways of responding to wrongdoing, resolving conflict and building relationships in the community.

To learn more about Sandra Hastings and the training see our website www.pirochester.org

Partners in Restorative Initiatives and the Gandhi Institute are sponsoring these trainings.



PiRI Vision

We envision a world where restorative principles and practices are known, respected and used to redress harm, restore peace, improve relationships, reduce violence, promote healing and build healthy communities.

PiRI Mission

Partners in Restorative Initiatives, located in western New York, works with schools, courts and communities to instill restorative practices through education, advocacy, training and facilitation.

A SEASON FOR NONVIOLENCE



carry the vision

A Season For Nonviolence

January 30 – April 4, 2012

In collaboration with Restorative Rochester, PiRI will co-sponsor a series of Talking Circles during the eight weeks of the Season for Nonviolence.

These Circles are at the heart of our work. The topics represent the needs of people that must be met if we are to live in a peaceful, non-violent way. We encourage you join us for any or all of the circles.

A Season for Nonviolence, is a national 64 day educational, media, and grassroots campaign dedicated to demonstrating that nonviolence is a powerful way to heal, transform, and empower our lives and our communities. Inspired by the memorial anniversaries of Mahatma Gandhi and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., this international event honors their vision for a nonviolent world.

Talking Circles Schedule

Monday, 1/30:	HOPES AND DREAMS FOR THE FUTURE
Tuesday, 2/7:	TRUST
Weds., 2/15:	COMMUNITY
Friday, 3/2:	COOPERATION
Sat., 3/10:	APPRECIATION
Sunday, 3/18:	FAMILY
Monday, 3/26:	FRIENDSHIP

Where: PiRI, 111 Hillside Ave

Time: 7:00pm - 9:00pm

You can sign up for daily thought provoking messages at:

www.seasonsfornonviolence.com

Thank you to Padme Livingstone for coordinating the Circles.

Accountability Circles Impacting Youth

Genesee Orleans Council on Alcoholism & Substance Abuse (GCASA) use the Peace Circle model to hold Accountability Circles to address underage drinking and youth who break their school's code of conduct.

Lisa Barrett, Prevention Educator at GCASA, and trained in Peace Circles at PiRI, has facilitated several Accountability Circles since the Summer of 2011. She is thrilled to see the youth impacted in a positive way as a result of the circle experience. Here is some of her feedback:

"I liked hearing everyone's stories. You learn about other people and things they have gone through. You realize you're never alone and that you do have other options."

"It was a safe environment to share stories"

"Really changes your mind about things, gives you a different outlook on drinking"

Read Lisa's entire article at www.pirochester.org

PiRI welcomes Katherine Schaefer to the Board of Directors

Katherine is a faculty member in the College Writing Program at the University of Rochester and has trained and been involved in mediation and restorative practices for the past several years. Her academic background includes degrees in biochemistry and biological sciences from the University of Illinois and Carnegie-Mellon University. Katherine is a researcher who is passionate about classroom teaching. She was previously president of the Board of Crohn's and Colitis Foundation in Rochester. As a new board member, Katherine is interested in facilitation, marketing and communications and training. She is very enthusiastic about making presentations to tell PiRI's story.



Restorative Schools in the Making



MONROE High School Restorative Practices planning team has several initiatives underway: developing a school reentry plan that provides more support for returning students; Chris Sergent and Sarah Greco are training students to be Circle members and co-facilitators, and Bernadette Reagan provides leadership for restorative conversations and conferences. There is a special focus

on 7th graders to help them learn the norms of Monroe and begin to acquire the behaviors that are expected of students in a restorative school. Jessica Pardee, an associate professor from RIT, is supporting documentation and evaluation of restorative practices at Monroe.

AVON Restorative Practices Planning Team: High school students are being trained in a one day Peace Circle workshop by PiRI certified Avon trainers, Mary Hughes and Dan Thompson. Cordula Kennell, high school English teacher, continues to develop expertise in using academic circles. She reports that more of her students are requesting training in Circles. High School principal, Barbara Zelazny, reports success with restorative discipline conferences.

Exciting News about New RCSD Schools

PiRI's collaboration with Rochester city schools has expanded to four new schools: Wilson Commencement, the Leadership Academy for Young Men, the school of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) and NorthSTAR. In each of these schools, planning teams are learning about restorative practices and planning for implementation. Jeanne Carlivati and Mary Reed, with support from Mary Meissner, Sue Lione, and Diana Vega meet with each planning team regularly and provide training in restorative practices.

Restorative work in the four new schools is made possible through generous funding from the Feinbloom Supporting Foundation, the Skalny Foundation, an anonymous family foundation, and an anonymous donor. Watch for more news about these schools on our website and in future e-newsletters.

January Quote

"The longer we listen to one another - with real attention - the more commonality we will find in all our lives. That is, if we are careful to exchange with one another life stories and not simply opinions."

-Barbara Deming

talking piece is the monthly newsletter of Partners in Restorative Initiatives. A talking piece is used in Peace Circles to create a space for each person to talk and for others to listen.

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Send mailing updates, corrections and submissions to: PiRI, 111 Hillside Avenue, Rochester, NY 14610

Archives at www.pirochester.org

On Our Calendar

- Jan 17 - Leadership Academy for Young Men Restorative Practices Training
- Jan 18 - Supper and Support for Facilitators
- Jan 18 - Restorative Practices—Staff Circles STEM
- Jan 25 - Restorative Practices—Staff Circles #44 School
- Jan 31—PiRI School Committee meeting
- Feb 6 - Courts/Conferencing Committee meeting
- Feb 7 - Restorative Practices at the Chatterbox Club, by Rev. Alan Newton and Judge Vicky Argento
- Feb 8 - Juvenile Accountability Conference planning

Looking forward...

- Feb 13- 17 RJ training for Campus Security and Student Conduct personnel, by Constable Sandra Hastings
- Feb 20 - RJ training for School Resource Officers 8-4pm—PiRI
- Feb 21 & 23 - RJ training RPD officers and supervisors, SW Sector
- March 3 - Restorative Conversations—all day workshop presented by Rev. Alan Newton and Gail Ferraioli
- March 5, 6 & 9th—Re Entry Training, Center for Dispute Resolution Ontario County

You can support PiRI in working toward a restorative community with your donation. Please see our website to donate via Pay Pal, or send directly to our address, or through United Way.

PiRI Designation Number 2486



Talking Piece

To remove your name from our mailing list, please email office@pirochester.org
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