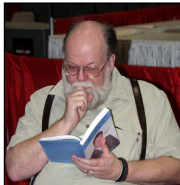


VITAL COMMUNITIES VITAL CONVERSATIONS

NO Easy Answers – NO Simple Solutions – but a commitment to principled hard work

Community Resource Unit and Department of Communities (Disability Services) are delighted to present an exciting opportunity to work alongside four dynamic international presenters.



John O'Brien



Connie Lyle O'Brien



Jack Pearpoint



Lynda Kahn

This world cafe style workshop will be a forum to bring together people who live with disability, their families, non government and government organisations and all who share a vision of communities where everyone is a contributing citizen.

Brisbane 19th & 20th April 2010

9am – 4.30pm

(Registration from 8am)

Royal on the Park

152 Alice St. Brisbane

Register by 31 March 2010

(This is a 2 day Event)

This two-day practical workshop will challenge each participant to reflect on what we already know and believe, re-affirm our values, think about what is possible and practical in complex times, and renew our commitment to the daily hard work that produces powerful changes in people's lives - ours and people we support. Many approaches will be explored; however, there will be **no easy answers - no simple solutions – but a commitment to principled hard work.**

There will be deep conversations, intensive listening and creative strategies around person-centred ways to build inclusive communities. It will be an opportunity to expand our perspective to see 'everyone' as a resource and thus create fully participating communities where everyone (without exception) is a contributing citizen.

If you are a person with a disability or family member, please indicate on the registration form if you require a bursary, fee reduction or other support to attend and a CRU consultant will contact you. If the length of the workshop is a barrier please contact CRU.

As this is highly subsidised by QLD Government, preference will be given to residents of QLD.
Our interstate colleagues and friends are welcome to apply but will be placed on a wait list.

For further information please contact
CRU on (07) 3211 5700 or gemmascott@cru.org.au or cru@cru.org.au
Unit 1/ 414 Upper Roma St. Brisbane 4000

Community Resource Unit Inc.

Funded by





- * Act on the conviction “there is no one we do not need” in every community development activity
- * Purposely build networks of connection between labelled and non-labelled citizens
- * Organise around increasing the participation of marginalized people in community life

- * Support identification of gifts
- * Actively assist bridging connections to non-labelled people & associations
- * Provide the assistance individuals require in order to participate and contribute

John O’Brien learns about building more just and inclusive communities from people with disabilities, their families, and their allies. He uses what he learns to advise people with disabilities and their families, advocacy groups, service providers, and governments and to spread the news among people interested in change by writing and through workshops. He works in partnership with Connie Lyle O’Brien and a group of friends from 12 countries. He is affiliated with the Centre on Human Policy (US), the National Development Team for Services to People with Learning Difficulties (UK) and the Marsha Forest Centre: Inclusion, Family, Community.

Connie Lyle O’Brien has spent the last 25 years learning about what it takes for people with disabilities, their families, friends and allies to better support people with disabilities to live, work, learn, worship and have fun as full participants in community life. Connie and her husband, John O’Brien, have had the privilege to work with individuals and groups who are pushing at the edges of what we know how to do. Connie is a part of the Responsive Systems Associates. They have: developed methods for helping people learn about the principle of normalization through PASS, assisted people in implementing and evaluating citizen advocacy programs, developed person-centred methods for planning and implementing program change, created *Framework for Accomplishment*, an intensive learning experience for people concerned with improving service program quality.

Jack Pearpoint is an independent Canadian Publisher (Inclusion Press) and catalyst for team work, diversity and change. Jointly with John O’Brien and Marsha Forest (deceased), Jack created person-centred approaches such as PATH, MAPS and Circles of Friends. Jack’s forty years of organization experience include 7 years in Africa implementing post-war reconstruction; 16 years as President of Canada’s oldest literacy organization, Frontier College; and nearly 20 years as a full-time publisher and presenter. Jack is the founding director of the Marsha Forest Centre: Inclusion, Family and Community and remains it’s Executive Director. Jack with his wife and partner, Lynda Kahn, consult and learn with people with disabilities and their families, and organizations engaging in positive change, through planning events and workshops.

Lynda Kahn, is a co-leader at Inclusion Press International, Toronto, working with individuals, families, organizations and governments interested in positive change. She served in the public sector in the United States, as Rhode Island’s Director of the Division of Developmental Disabilities (1996-2005) and as President of the National Association of State Directors of Developmental Disabilities Services (NASDDDS). Lynda is passionate about leadership, change and personal engagement to realize a more just world where everyone’s voice and gifts are welcome. Her experience has taken her from institution to community settings, involving values-based person-centred practice as a means to facilitate individual and organizational change. Lynda, with her partner, Jack Pearpoint, design learning and planning processes created to engage people in action for social change.

Register Now

Cost: \$250 Paid Workers

\$100 person with disability or family member, full time students

Please complete attached registration form.

For enquires please contact Cru 3211 5700 or email gemmascott@cru.org.au or cru@cru.org.au

**Registration Form – Vital Communities – Vital Conversations
19th and 20th April 2010**

Cancellation Policy: Refunds not available after 31st March 2010 – Registration may be transferred

Send to:

Community Resource Unit Inc
Unit 1/414 Upper Roma St
Brisbane QLD 4000
or Fax to: (07) 3211 5711

Name:

Role/Interest:

Organisation:

Mail Address:

Suburb:

State: **Postcode:**

Phone: h..... **w**

Fax:

Mobile:

Email:

Additional needs eg attendant, dietary, real time captioning – please specify:

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The total price includes GST.

- Fees:** \$250 Paid Worker
 \$100 person with disability or family member, full time students

Please make cheques payable to:

Community Resource Unit Inc
 Invoice me please EFT

Transfer to:

Bendigo Bank
BSB Number: 633 000
Account Number: 118 959 881

CREDIT CARD AUTHORISATION

Please charge my:

- Bankcard MasterCard Visa

The sum of \$

Card Number _____/_____/_____/_____ Expiry ____/____

Cardholder Name:..... Signature:

CRU Staff Use Only

Registration No...... **Tax Invoice**.....

ID No...... **CC/Authorization:**