

Inclusion Press
COURSE ANNOUNCEMENT

DESIGN FOR CHANGE

with

John O'Brien, Jack Pearpoint & Lynda Kahn

at Ryerson University, ILLC
Toronto, ON

April 2-4, 2008

On April 2, 3 & 4, 2008, John O'Brien, Jack Pearpoint & Lynda Kahn will be guiding a remarkable course, "Design for Change". Inclusion Press last offered this three day intensive course in March 2002. It is rigorous, exciting and challenging leadership development. It will give participants time to scan, focus and then design a change plan for their organization, family or themselves.

Course Description

We will work together to generate a way to understand change. We will enrich our reflections by taking 'learning excursions' and explore our "commission" to ourselves (our mission) considering multiple perspectives on the work of making a positive difference in chaotic, messy, difficult and challenging situations.

We will not give answers. We will work together to find the right questions and spend three days exploring routes that will assist us in our lives. The retreat offers a small group intensive time to work together on designing and facilitating change efforts for individuals, teams, and organizations.

Leading edge change theories will be explored, theoretically and practically, as the leaders assist individuals and teams to depict and reflect on their own practice and issues.

The framework of the course is loosely based on the "Design Shop" training experiences adapted to the human service services environment. *Day One* is a wide-ranging 'environmental scan' to open participants to unnoticed possibilities. *Day Two* transitions to a series of structured iterations that 'focus' on the issue each individual or team has brought to the course. *Day Three*, works toward creative iterations of possible, implementable action plans, which require increased clarity on long-term vision, AND very tangible, practical steps to begin the journey of change. This final day strengthens networks, information and support structures to sustain the unavoidable stress fractures that occur in any change process.

Participants will leave with a personal plan (outline) of their 'vision' (direction) and initial practical steps to begin working on the issue of their choosing.

About the course guides

Dr. John O'Brien is an internationally renowned thinker, problem solver, presenter and planner. He is the Director of Responsive Systems Associates of Atlanta, GA, and the author of numerous books and hundreds of articles in the area of human service. He has been a consultant and guide to individuals and governments ranging from every state in the United States, to England, Scotland, Ireland, Bosnia, Australia, New Zealand, Japan and beyond. His expertise is based on thirty years of experience in the human services field - beginning as the director of a long-stay institution, ranging to partnerships that run decades with organizations and agencies around the globe that are committed to building healthier futures for people. Some published titles include: *Members of Each Other*; *A Little Book on Person centered planning*; *Celebrating the Ordinary*; *PATH* and many more.

Jack Pearpoint is the founding Director of Inclusion Press International and the Director of the Marsha Forest Centre ~ Inclusion. Family. Community. Thirty-five years of organizational experience include seven years in Africa implementing post-war reconstruction; sixteen years as the President of Frontier College, Canada's oldest national literacy organization; and over a decade as a full-time publisher and presenter and problem solver with individuals, organizations and governments on five continents. Jointly the creator of planning tools such as *Circles*, *MAPS* and *PATH*, Jack Pearpoint, Marsha Forest (deceased), and John O'Brien have an extensive list of books and videos & DVD's demonstrating new tools for change, including "Person Centered Tools for Change", in CD ROM format.

Lynda Kahn served as the state of Rhode Island's Executive Director of the Division of Developmental Disabilities from 1996 to 2005, and has worked on behalf of individuals with developmental disabilities for over 24 years. Her experience has taken her from institution to community settings, involving values-based person-centered planning as a means to facilitate individual and organizational change. She is passionate about leadership, change and personal engagement to realize a more just world where everyone's voice and gifts are welcome. She helped found Rhode Island's Service Quality Network, and later was instrumental in creating the Facilitator's Forum, as well as being a catalyst in the state's Integrated Initiative on Positive Approaches. She works with Inclusion Press International and the Marsha Forest Center on Inclusion, Family and Community. She is also at the University of Massachusetts Medical School, Eunice Kennedy Shriver Center, as faculty advisor to an initiative focused on disaster preparedness including citizens with developmental disabilities, and creating an opportunity for positive social change.

Course Tuition: \$650.00, includes a light continental breakfast, and snacks breaks.

The course is limited to 25 participants! Please contact Cathy Hollands at 416-658-5363, or by email at cathy@inclusion.com, to register for the course.

Accommodations: Rooms are available for the conference at [International Learning & Living Centre at Ryerson University](#), in Toronto, ON (the same location we use for the Toronto Summer Institute. The cost of a shared room will be **approximately** \$113.00 per night. Their contact information is:

Conference Services
240 Jarvis Street, Suite 110
Toronto , Ontario M5B 2L1
Toll Free: 1-866-592-8882 (Canada only)
Phone: (416) 979-5296, Fax: (416) 979-5241

<http://www.ryerson.ca/conference/accommodations/illc/index.html>

In addition there are other hotels in the immediate area which have a special rate arrangement for those attending events affiliated with Ryerson University. Please contact Cathy Hollands for additional information.

Please let us know of any special accommodations necessary for your attendance and full participation. Additional information, including an event outline and directions to the ILLC at Ryerson University in downtown Toronto, will be mailed at least one week prior to the event. If you have any additional questions please contact Inclusion Press:

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