

Resilient Conversations: Bridging Divides Through Community Dialogue



Training Dates: May 25 & 26, 2021 | 9:00-5:00 PM

Registration Form: <https://tinyurl.com/clpdialogue>

Submission Deadline: May 10, 2021

Description:

Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh is teaming up with dialogue consultants, *Essential Partners*, to offer members of the Pittsburgh community the opportunity to attend a virtual training to facilitate dialogue on May 25 & 26, 2021 from 9:00-5:00 PM (schedule includes lunch and short breaks). Essential Partners' unique approach - [Reflective Structured Dialogue \(RSD\)](#) - was created 32 years ago in Cambridge, MA. Highly adaptable to local needs and culture, RSD is now in use on some of the most divisive issues across the US and in over 25 countries around the world. **This training is geared toward those who lead or influence groups of people, and want to learn how to hold space for tough conversations in daily life, in your community, at your workplace, or during formal dialogues. We hope you will consider applying or pass along to colleagues who may benefit from this opportunity.**

Learning Objectives:

- Understand the dynamics of stuck conversations;
- Experience dialogic structures that break destructive or silencing patterns;
- Experience of Reflective Structured Dialogue;
- Learn tools for reflection and inquiry that can be used in everyday interactions;
- Learn how to establish the conditions for dialogue through the use of agreements, preparation, design, and the use of space;
- Build connections between participants to support important, complex or difficult conversations;
- Structure dialogues in the community and design dialogue questions to invite narrative, value-based discussion, and complexity; and
- Use dialogue as a civic tool for reflection, self-authorship, connection to the values, and the development of conviction and intellectual humility.

Training Format:

- **Day One:** Group activity, training overview, introductions, break, information-sharing, group discussion, lunch, participate in a dialogue, journaling, break, dialogue debrief, review and practice.
- **Day Two:** Reflection share-out, information-sharing, exercises, break, dialogue facilitation using a script, debrief, lunch, exercise and teaching, facilitation deep-dive, exercise and teaching, break, additional practice and wrap-up/evaluations.

Note: This training will take place using Zoom Meetings and Breakout Rooms. Participants should plan to use a desktop, laptop or tablet with keyboard. If this is your first-time using Zoom, you may be prompted to download the latest version. Learn more about joining a Zoom meeting [here](#), or find additional assistance in Zoom's [FAQ](#).

Who Should Apply?

This training will be useful for anyone who leads or influences groups of people, and would like to learn how to hold space for tough conversations in daily life, in your community, at your workplace or during formal dialogues. Register here: <https://tinyurl.com/clpdialogue>

This free training is supported and funded through CivicCLP. Registration is required and space is limited. Please complete the application to be considered for this opportunity. Library staff will reach out to confirm attendance 2-weeks before the training. Questions related to this training can be sent to baylessj@carnegielibrary.org. Learn more about Essential Partners at <https://whatisessential.org>.