

POSITIVE INTERACTION

Conflict Transformation through Group Conferencing

Three-day Professional Development Training

Presenters: Dr David Moore and Dr Alikki Vernon

Academic Centre: University College

Melbourne University

Dates: Wednesday 28th – Friday 30th November 2018

Time: 9:30am – 5:00pm each day

This workshop provides 3 days of training for professionals who are practising, or interested to practise, in the field of conflict transformation. The training is also valuable for managers responsible for program and policy development. The workshop focuses on the several formats of the **Group Conferencing** process, which is used to address unresolved conflict &/or complex issues affecting a group of people, or to proactively promote conflict resilience. Workshop participants will:

- examine methods for dealing with challenging situations in justice, health and education systems, and in families, workplaces, residential &/or other communities;
- identify situations that can be addressed effectively using dispute handling or conflict management techniques; &
- practise facilitation techniques to acquire skills that can be applied in many areas of professional practice.

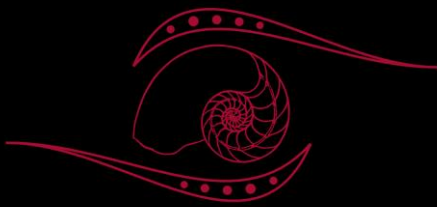
This training meets Best Practice Standards developed by the Victorian Association of Restorative Justice (VARJ) for Group Conference facilitation.

Workshop fee: \$1 500 for three days.

All days are fully catered.

Reduced rates are available for group bookings.

For further information, and registration and payment details, please contact Alikki Vernon: alikki@alikkiv.com.au



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FEEDBACK FROM RECENT PARTICIPANTS

"The training is very informative, interactive, and well-facilitated. I enjoyed all aspects of it."

Lionel Dukakis, Program Manager: Ngarra Jarranounith Place

"I like the model of 'explain, demonstrate, practice' with audio visual support...real time examples...hearing about others' experiences...and the facilitators co-presenting - which made great use of their diverse ranges of skills and knowledge. I did love the theory and references, and this will inform my usual ADR practice."

Carol Bowen, Acting Assistant Director, Directorate of Complaints & Resolution: Department of Defence

"The poignancy and power of Group Conferencing (GC) really resonated with me. I can really see just what a powerful tool GC is in resolving conflict and restoring right relationships... The training made a significant impact on how I might work. I would absolutely recommend the facilitators' skill, knowledge, training ability and experience. Love the experiential component and the underpinning principles of working this way."

Jo Howard: Churchill Fellow and pioneer of Victoria's Step-Up Adolescent Family Violence Intervention Programs

"If you have an interest in Group Conferencing or in transforming conflict or supporting people to move forward from a family, group or community breakdown, this training would be extremely useful, in terms of having a model that can be learned and applied and is shown to be effective. Great presenters; very focused training; no down time. Concrete, practical, directly relevant."

Charmaine Farrell, Manager: Northern Centre Against Sexual Assault

"The three-day course took me on a journey through emotion, understanding and insight. The approach of 'practice by doing' is certainly a great one. You sit observing others and listening to the great coaches, David and Alikki. But it is actually when you have a go yourself - which is what this course enables you to do (and as I did in the role of convener in a scenario of a conference with multiple parties - that you truly learn and adjust your approach. Conferencing is different to mediation and mediation is different to negotiation. All have a logic and use for different situations...I would highly recommend the course to others."

Dr Liz Curran, Senior Lecturer, Legal Workshop and solicitor: Australian National University

"Well balanced training. Paradigm shifting. I really enjoyed and valued the practical focus of the workshop. I plan to set up a program using this approach. I feel I have a deeper understanding. Such an interesting perspective to take back into one's engagement with the world."

Alistair Nairn, Community Advisor: Environment Protection Authority Victoria

"I believe the values, theories and skills required for group conferencing are essential for social work practice."

Dr Susie Costello, Program Director Master of Social Work: RMIT University, Melbourne

"Conferencing offers exciting opportunities for the transformation of workplace conflict by bringing together the people involved in, and impacted by, conflict to address and resolve the issues. I found the workshop challenging, thought-provoking and inspiring. The trainers are skilled and engaging, and the training content is an effective balance of theory and practice."

Meriel O'Sullivan, REDD HR/IR Consultancy

"I found the training extremely useful and fun. Until I facilitated a session during the training I had been unaware of the power of the group process to bring about change in such a decisive manner. I would recommend this training to anyone thinking about running group sessions, regardless of the way they are described."

Carolyn Worth, Manager, South Eastern Centre Against Sexual Assault

"The training is an excellent balance of reinforcing the detail [of a restorative process] whilst promoting flexibility. The training also provided an excellent balance between theory and practice."

Keith Castle, Group Conferencing Convenor, Jesuit Social Services, Alice Springs