



Respectful Alliances

Response Abilities Pathways & Positive Peer Culture

Pre-conference, July 18-20, 2022, 8:30AM-4:30PM

This intensive three-day course provides dual certification in RAP and PPC. These Circle of Courage trainings combine to transform trauma into resilience by strengthening Belonging, Mastery, Independence, and Generosity.

Response Ability Pathways (RAP): Restoring Bonds of Respect

RAP training provides all who care about and work with young people the practical tools to respond to needs instead of reacting to problems.

—Lesley du Toit, Pretoria, South Africa

RAP employs three natural, brain-based helping strategies: Connecting for support, Clarifying challenges, and Restoring respect. RAP replaces coercion with communication. Moving beyond typical crisis de-escalation models, RAP provides practical, research-validated methods to turn problems into opportunities for learning and growth. Piloted in South Africa to transform services to young people at risk, RAP is used worldwide. RAP co-authors Larry Brendtro and Lesley du Toit have updated this training to provide essential skills for all who deal with challenging children and youth in any culture or setting. This universal-design course translates research on resilience, trauma, culture, and neuroscience into terms readily understandable by lay person and professional alike. Training is enriched with video clips and experiential learning activities. RAP Skills are essential for all dealing with challenging youth.

Positive Peer Culture (PPC): Building Strengths in Youth

PPC is a peer-helping model designed to improve social competence and cultivate strengths in youth. Care and concern for others is the defining element of PPC.

—California Evidence-Based Clearing House

PPC provides leading-edge strategies to create positive climates in schools, juvenile justice, residential treatment, and community settings. Youth disconnected from adults often gravitate to negative peers and engage in high-risk behavior. Punishment only intensifies conflict with authority and fuels a culture of bullying. There is widespread concern about negative peer influence in all settings serving youth at risk. Positive Peer Culture reverses this process by enlisting youth in prosocial helping roles and building respectful relationships with adults. PPC co-authors Larry Brendtro who piloted early PPC programs at Starr Commonwealth in Michigan, and Beate Kreisle who is a leader in Circle of Courage and PPC in Germany, draw on decades of research and practical strategies to build strengths in troubled youth. Now firmly grounded in Circle of Courage principles, this peer-helping model is recognized as a research-based practice.

Presenters

Larry Brendtro, PhD, Resilience Resources, Lennox, SD

Mark Freado, Growing Edge Training, Westerville, OH

Beate Kreisle, MA, Jugend-Kolleg am See, Moos, Germany