



Restorative Practices in Action

October 20, 2022

Housekeeping



We encourage participation. Please use the Q/A or chat function for questions, comments, etc.



This session will be recorded and posted to the FPWA website.



You will receive a follow-up email with link to the recording and a short post-session survey. *Please take 2 minutes to complete the survey!*



Please take care. This session includes information and discussion about trauma.



About FPWA

- **FPWA** is an **anti-poverty policy and advocacy organization** with a membership network of over 170 human services and faith-based organizations.
- We **promote the social and economic well-being** of individuals and communities by **advocating for just public policies** and **strengthening human services organizations**.

How we support nonprofits

- FPWA supports nonprofit and faith-based organizations, by **building their capacity** to use a **trauma-informed** and **people-centered approach** to service delivery, organizational effectiveness, and civic engagement.

What is restorative justice?

Restorative Justice invites everyone impacted by harm to develop a shared understanding of both its root causes and effects. Restorative justice addresses the needs of those who have been harmed, while encouraging those who have caused harm to take responsibility.



Restorative justice represents a different paradigm of justice; **different but not new**. The term restorative justice was coined in the late 1970's, but it traces its origins to community based conflict resolution practices found in many **indigenous cultures**.

Applications

Restorative justice has a range of applications within communities, schools, and the justice system. It may also be used to address mass social conflict and historic harm.

Community Participation

Restorative justice gives the community a role in addressing the impact of wrongdoing. Community participation and a sense of ownership is crucial to creating accountability.



What do we mean by **ACCOUNTABILITY**?

It's an active, multi-step process:

Acknowledge **harm**

Acknowledge **responsibility** for causing harm

Take steps to **make things** as **right** as possible

Decrease likelihood that it will happen again

“Restorative justice represents a paradigm shift from thinking about justice as a mechanism for social control, to thinking about justice as a mechanism for social engagement.”

-Dr. Brenda Morrison



Mika Dashman
Moderator
Restorative Justice Initiative



Ashley Ellis
Panelist
The B.R.E.A.T.H.E.
Collective



Dr. John Ducksworth
Panelist
Multifaith Initiative to
End Mass Incarceration (EMI)



Elizabeth Clemants
Panelist
Hidden Water



DeMarisa Steeley
Panelist
H.O.L.L.A!



Mika Dashman
Moderator
Restorative Justice Initiative

Mika Dashman is an attorney, mediator and a zealous advocate for restorative justice. She is the Founding Director of Restorative Justice Initiative, a citywide, multi-sector network of practitioners, advocates and community members seeking to increase support for, and access to, restorative justice approaches for all New Yorkers. Mika was awarded the David Lerman Memorial Fund Fellowship in Restorative Justice by the Project for Integrating Law, Spirituality and Politics in both 2015 and 2017. She is also a contributor to the 2021 anthology, *Listening to the Movement: Essays on New Growth and New Challenges in Restorative Justice*.

Mika is a New York State-certified mediator and has mediated criminal court cases and facilitated community conferences through the New York Peace Institute. Mika also facilitates peacemaking/community-building circles for organizations, student and professional groups. Her restorative justice teachers include: Lauren Abramson, Kay Pranis, Dominic Barter, Eric Butler, Ray Deal and Sara Whitehorse.

Prior to beginning her work in alternative dispute resolution, Mika spent over six years providing direct legal services to indigent individuals at several NYC non-profits, including Housing Works, Inc., where she also worked on all aspects of the agency's civil rights impact docket. Mika received her J.D. from the City University of New York School of Law in 2005 and her B.A. from Sarah Lawrence College.



Ashley Ellis
Panelist
The B.R.E.A.T.H.E. Collective

Born and raised in Chicago, Ashley Ellis is the daughter of Bailey Ellis Sr. and Lizzie Jenkins. Ashley is a restorative justice practitioner and trainer; a dreamer, storyteller, peacemaker, and bridge builder. As Co-Founder and Co-Keeper for B.R.E.A.T.H.E. Circles, Ashley has pioneered NYC based Peacemaking Circle Keeper Trainings that have been made accessible for youth, schools, community members and credible messengers. Using her experience working with system involved young women, along with the foundations of restorative justice and Peacemaking Circles, Ashley envisioned B.R.E.A.T.H.E: Circles for My Sistas where she strives to provide sacred healing and restorative space for black and brown girls/tgnc youth to be Balanced, Restored, Empowered, Affirmed, Transformed, Healed, and Embodied.

Ashley founded Breathe Circles, LLC, a Restorative Justice Consultancy, where she trains individuals, youth, school systems, and organizations across the country in the practice of Restorative Justice and Community Building through peacemaking. Using a womanist integral spirit centered approach, embodied + liberation pedagogy, along with restorative justice and circles, she strives to create holistic spaces that communicate a message of Love, Connectedness, Hope, Faith, Restoration and Transformation with the goal of bringing healing, liberation, and transformation to not only our youth, but to our schools, families, communities locally and globally in a profoundly dope way!



Dr. John Ducksworth
Panelist

Multifaith Initiative to End Mass Incarceration (EMI)

Dr. John Ducksworth was born in Harlem. He acquired an Associate Degree from Dutchess Community College, a Bachelor's degree in Liberal Arts from State University of New York, a Master's Degree in Professional Studies from New York Theological Seminary with a concentration in counseling and a Master's Degree in Public Administration from John Jay College of Criminal Justice with a concentration in management and organization.

In 1985, John went to work for The Salvation Army in East Harlem, NY. After four years he became a Salvation Army Officer and was admitted to the School for Officers Training. He graduated in 1990, ordained and commissioned to the rank of Lieutenant and later promoted to the rank of Captain. After 17 years with the Salvation Army, he resigned his ordination and commission.

He has provided leadership to Court based programs, Community Corrections, probation and juvenile justice agencies, private corrections corporations and social services agencies. He is a licensed trainer in Restorative Justice Principles and Practices from International Institute of Restorative Practices (iirp), as well as trained at MAAT Training Institute for Restorative Justice, Community Justice of Youth Institute, University of Minnesota, and the US Department of Justice National Institute of Corrections.



Elizabeth Clemants
Panelist
Hidden Water

Elizabeth is a social worker at heart. She has always been interested in the intersection of social issues and the law. She attended Columbia University School of Social Work where she graduated with a MSW and a Minor in Law. She immediately went to work in the field of conflict resolution and has been practicing alternative dispute resolution (ADR) since 1997.

Elizabeth is the Executive Director of Hidden Water, a non-profit she founded in 2014. Hidden Water is a restorative justice response to childhood sexual abuse. The development of Hidden Water came as Elizabeth noticed a gap in services for families struggling with the aftermath of abuse. Elizabeth is also the founder and principal trainer at Planning Change, whose mission it is to educate and empower individuals to affect meaningful change in the conflicts around them. In addition to those endeavors, Elizabeth has been an adjunct professor at Fordham Law School since 2005. She works as a professional mediator and speaks regularly at events and conferences. She lives with her husband and three children in Brooklyn.



DeMarisa Steeley
Panelist
H.O.L.L.A!

From Harlem, New York, DeMarisa Steeley is a devoted single mother of two. She is an Organizer, Facilitator and Keeper of How Our Lives Link Altogether! (H.O.L.L.A!), a nonprofit developed from the organizing work and political strategizing of people who served sentences in New York State Correctional Facilities. The focus of H.O.L.L.A! is to co-create a youth-led organization centered on grassroots youth community organizing to support the leadership development, healing, and liberation of marginalized youth of color and their/our communities.

DeMarisa is also a Music Arts Healer, Youth Entrepreneurship coach and Fashion Designer. Formerly working at Rikers Island through the division of fine and performing arts, DeMarisa uses music improvisation, rhythmic music playing, songwriting and song analysis in the treatment process of short- and long-term trauma to service over 600 persons in custody a week. Moreover, she has facilitated/produced workshops and fashion shows with Passages Academy around youth entrepreneurship for justice involved youth. DeMarisa's fashionable creations have been featured in Vogue, Circle of Sisters, the Bronx Times as well as other local media outlets and events.

Please keep in touch!



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Next Steps

Join us in November for the next Foundational webinar focused on **Trauma-Responsive Organizations:**

Nov. 10, 10:00 am – 11:30 am

“Voice and Choice: Centering People and Communities”

Join us to learn how three different nonprofit organizations are taking a trauma-responsive and people-centered approach to service delivery. In this FPWA Member Share Out, representatives from NMIC's Domestic Violence Project, Forestdale, Inc., and Graham will walk us through successes and challenges in developing, implementing, and evaluating policies, practices and programs that center the people and communities they serve by honoring voice and choice.

The registration link will be in our follow-up email and is also available on <https://bit.ly/fpwatrainings>.

Thank You

Please remember to complete our **short post-training survey** that automatically opens after this session.