

August 15, 2011

LAVORP Peacemaking Circle Helps City Residents in Reconciliation

Four families (neighbors) in the City of Lancaster had ongoing disputes during 2010 that resulted in verbal, property and physical abuse. One of the residents was hospitalized for two weeks due to being beaten with a baseball bat.

Led by Charito Calvachi-Mateyko, an ex-officio member of the LAVORP's Board of Directors and a Restorative Justice Practitioner, the neighbors, a City Council Member, the Director of the Lancaster City Safety Coalition and a Lieutenant from the Lancaster City Police joined in a Peacemaking Circle.

Participants had an opportunity to express their feelings in a safe setting and discuss the issues that confronted them. As is typical of the Peacemaking Circle process, each participant came to realize how similar their values and expectations were. Those values were played out as they moved from differences to acceptance of one another. Since the Circle in January, 2011, things have been quiet in that neighborhood.

To learn how Peacemaking Circles can benefit your community contact Jon Singer at 397-2404.

Jon A. Singer

Executive Director

LAVORP
53 N. Duke St. Suite 303
Lancaster PA 17602

717-397-2404
lavorp@lavorp.org