INTRODUCING THE WELCOME TABLE, SOUTH CAROLINA

Presented By:
Rushondra J. James, MSW and Dawn Campbell, Ed.D.
Faculty Facilitators
Tuesday, November 15, 2016
What You Can Expect:

■ Learn “Why Now?”
■ To Learn the History and Purpose of Welcome Table South Carolina
■ Understand How the Program is Structured
■ Understand How the Program Succeeds
Why Now?

University of North Dakota students wear blackface in photo

By MEGAN CERULLO
NEW YORK DAILY NEWS  Sunday, September 26, 2016, 1:40 PM

San Jose State dorms marked with swastikas, hateful language

By JASON GREEN | jason.green@bayareanewsgroup.com
PUBLISHED: September 13, 2016 at 7:45 pm | UPDATED: September 23, 2016 at 6:07 am

Related Articles

Students who left swastikas at SJSU did it as a "joke," officials say

SAN JOSE — Swastikas and hateful language were discovered Tuesday night at two San
Why Now?

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The Citadel Investigates Cadets Who Wore KKK-like Hoods While Singing Christmas Carols
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TYWANZA SANDERS
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ETHEL LANCE
MYRA THOMPSON
DEPAYNE MIDDLETON-DOCTOR
REV. DANIEL SIMMONS
WE ARE ONE.
Speaking of Race…

“We try to conflate and combine all of racial history into one conversation, the so-called national conversation. The most effective conversations are the ones that are the most local.”

- Sherrilyn Ifill
Why Not Now?

Sensitive to our state’s racial history and current race-based social justice issues, the University of South Carolina has launched the....
South Carolina Collaborative for Race & Reconciliation

- Modeled after the William Winter Institute for Racial Reconciliation at the University of Mississippi
- Seeks to inspire participants in “Welcome Table” dialogues guided by trained facilitators
The Welcome Table Format

- Demand driven by its participants
- No ready-made solutions
- Built on candor, mutual respect, listening and learning from each other
- Guideposts
- Problem-solving strategies arise to help communities heal differences and conflict
Welcome Table Guideposts

- Be Present and Welcoming
- Listen Deeply to Learn
- No Fixing
- Suspend judgement and assumptions, seek understanding
- Speak your own truth and respect the truth of others
- Maintain confidentiality
- Respect Silence
- When things get difficult, turn to wonder
- Trust the Circle
Our Welcome Table Experience

- The Role of the Facilitator
- Participants
- Meeting Times
- Format
- Sample Discussion Prompts
SAMPLE ACTIVITY: CULTURAL TIMELINE

1) What are the important national or global events that you've lived through?
2) What are the important personal events?
3) An event or experience that shaped the way you think about racial/ethnic differences?
OUTCOME: CULTURAL TIMELINE
Parallels to Social Work Core Values

- Dignity and Worth of the Person
- Importance of Human Relationships
- Engagement
- Empathy
Welcome Table Retreat

- 2-day Retreat consists of exercises and activities:
  - Level Playing Field
  - Ancestors’ Circle
  - Culture in a Bag
Retreat Schedule (Sample)

Day 1
10:00-10:30  Welcome, Opening Check-in Reflection
10:30-11:30  Activity: Ancestor’s Circle
11:30-12:00  Journal Activity
1:00-2:15    Exercise: The Level Playing Field (and Debrief)
2:30-3:30    Open Discussion
3:30-4:00    Assign H.W. – Culture in a Bag and Bring Water

Day 2
11:00-12:00  Activity: Culture in a Bag and Water Sharing
12:00-1:00   Lunch Break
1:00-1:30    Letters
1:30-2:00    Reflecting/Wrap-up
Lessons from the Road

■ Setting the Tone
■ Use of Timers
■ Group Dynamic
■ Troubleshooting
Next Steps

- Community Outreach
- Facilitators
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<td>■ Website: <a href="https://www.sc.edu/about/offices_and_divisions/diversity_and_inclusion/key_diversity_initiatives/sc_collaborative_for_race_reconciliation/">https://www.sc.edu/about/offices_and_divisions/diversity_and_inclusion/key_diversity_initiatives/sc_collaborative_for_race_reconciliation/</a>&lt;br&gt;For more information, contact:&lt;br&gt;Bud Ferillo, Coordinator:&lt;br&gt;<a href="mailto:ferilloj@mailbox.sc.edu">ferilloj@mailbox.sc.edu</a></td>
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QUESTIONS/COMMENTS?
We extend... a sincere “Thank–You” for your time!

-Rushondra & Dawn