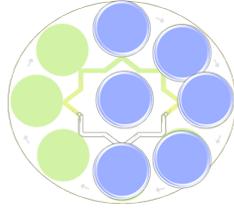




THE ART OF CONVENING™ TRAINING

Purpose in Action



SESSION 3

HOMEWORK & PREPARATION

SESSION THEMES [Convener Engaged with Participants]

<p>Creating the Container Creating the physical and energetic field within which we meet</p>		
<p>Challenge: Reluctance to impose our will on others</p>	<p>Principle: Clear and accepted boundaries integrated with an enlivened environment allow safety and openness.</p>	<p>Essential Questions: What is needed for the participants to feel safe in this gathering? What will enliven the environment? What protocols and agreements must be present?</p>
<p>Hearing All the Voices Each person speaks, is heard and is present and accounted for</p>		
<p>Challenge: Impatience / Judgment</p>	<p>Principle: Each voice is needed to reveal the authentic wisdom in our engagement.</p>	<p>Essential Questions: Who are we and what have we come to say and do together? How will we hear all the voices at this gathering? What methods and practices will allow for the full expression of all participants?</p>

Session Reading:

Readings from *The Art of Convening: Authentic Engagement in Meetings, Gatherings, and Conversations*

- Chapter 5-Creating the Container
- Chapter 6-Hearing All the Voices

Handouts: download from blog

Journaling Questions and Exercise to complete before Session 3

Your responses will be discussed during the session call

Creating the Container:

In designing physical spaces for human interaction, what considerations would you make for bringing aliveness to the engagement? List some specific examples.

In designing an engagement to hold a safe field for the people involved, what agreement and protocols would you use? List specific examples.

Hearing all the Voices:

How are you creating opportunities for authentic engagement, in which all the voices are heard, in your life and work?

What have you noticed about the quality and outcomes of your engagements when the essence of the interchange has depth and meaning as opposed to when it does not?

Exercise: Reflecting on Beauty

Recall the last time you experienced an expression of beauty in your meetings. What were the psychic, emotional, and physical impacts on the people and the outcomes?

- Pick out one or two elements that were meaningful to you to begin to create a standard for future engagements.
- Experiment with them to create a baseline form for your engagements.