

Susan Kaplan, M.S.W., M.P.A.

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PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

Experienced Professional Trainer, Educator, Coach, Facilitator and Consultant with over 24 years of experience with diverse populations in a wide range of settings. Integrating skill development with vision and incorporating multifaceted knowledge and training strategies, including: Systems Theory, Educational Models, Assets/Strength Based Model, Applied Skill Building, Professional and Applied Storytelling, Mindful Listening and Mindful Talking Communication Skills, Peacemaking Training and Experience, Private Business Ownership, Extensive Non Profit Community Experience, Community Building, Mentorship of Graduate Students and Professionals, Wellness & Health Promotion, Contemplative Practices, and Development and Implementation of a Holistic Model:

Training & Teaching

Consultation & Coaching

Leadership Development

Cross-Cultural Skills

Facilitation

Program Development

Curriculum Development

Collaborative Team Building

Use of Story

Communication

Supervision

Peacemaking

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Facilitator, Colorado Courage and Renewal: 2009 to present. Connected to the National Center for Courage and Renewal, based on Dr. Parker Palmer's work, i.e. Courage to Teach, Courage to Lead, Circles of Trust®. Provide Facilitation in Collaborative Team in Interfaith Series and program development for nonprofit sector and interfaith initiatives.

Organizational Development and Support Trainer, Rocky Mountain Center for Compassionate Communication: 2009 to present. Based on the work of Marshall Rosenberg and Nonviolent Communication. Current Facilitator of Organizing Circle (based on Sociocracy) and Support Trainer.

Professional Trainer, Program Development, Life Skills Coaching, Facilitation, Consultation, Educator: February 1998 – present. Provide innovative multi-faceted services for diverse client populations (from individuals to organizations) in a wide range of settings. Consultation and training provided for staff and professional development, students, parents, and teachers. Extensive program and curriculum development, collaboration and training experience. Conference and workshop presentations given on local, regional and national level. Recent work: Professional Development for Extended Learning Department, Denver Public Schools. Approved Trainer for Qualistar (Early Childhood Educators) and Colorado Branch, National Association of Social Workers. Past supervision of Graduate Social Work Students. See web site for listing of specific training areas, i.e. Communication and life skills.

Professional Storyteller & Story Listener: July, 1999 to present. Applied and Educational Storytelling Performances, Classes, Workshops, Coaching, Artist In Residency and Programs for children to seniors. Programs & training provided to a diversity of participants, including schools, libraries, Red Rocks Community College, and Regional & National Conferences. Recipient of a 2006 National Grant to develop a family educational training model, Peace in the Family: Coordinator, Trainer, and Collaborative Team leader. Faculty for Swallow Hill Music Association and Artist for Community Resources Inc, providing programs for Denver Public Schools. Recent work: Applied Storytelling for Bereavement Professionals, Colorado Springs, Peace Wrestling – Applied Story for Teachers, Swallow Hill.

Adjunct Professor, Wellness Living and Learning Community, University of Denver: Community Wellness Course, Spring Quarter, 2008. Curriculum development and teaching of experientially based course on community wellness models and the interaction between individual and community wellness.

Trainer, Program Development, Educator, Facilitation: The Conflict Center, Denver, CO., Contract Trainer: June, 1999 – present, and Staff: October, 1996 – 1999. Applied Skill Development (i.e. conflict and anger management, parenting, etc.) in diverse settings through classes, workshops and home visits. Consultant for Childcare Centers and programs. Extensive program and curriculum development: Parent, Family, and Teacher Series; Student Programs.

Other pertinent experience:

Certified Substitute Teacher: Denver Public Schools. Current CO Substitution Certificate.

Facilitator and Trainer: Center For Quality Schools, Collaborative Decision Making, DPS.

Child Care Provider & Owner of Private Home Child Care Business,

Pilates Instructor: Schlessman YMCA. Pilates Substitute.

Adoption Counselor: Adoption Connection. Counseled birth mothers/fathers.

Family Service Counselor and Program Coordinator: Warren Village, Inc.

Workshop Facilitator: New Pride, Inc.. Co-developed curriculum & facilitated training.

Community Development & Organizing and Leadership Development: Metropolitan Organizations for People. Training, supervision, research, needs assessment, and coalition work.

VISTA Volunteer: Community, program and leadership development.

Director, Trainer, and Peer Counseling: Peer Counseling Crisis Line, SwitchBoard . University of Arizona. Director, Trainer and Crisis Counselor.

ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

Courage and Renewal: Facilitator Preparation Program, current

Peacemaker Institute: Two Year Certification Program, Fall, 2008.

Nonviolent Communication® Training: On-going workshops, '06 to current.

National Coalition Building Institute: On-going Diversity Training & Café Dialogues '07 - 09.

Applied and Educational Storytelling: On-going Professional Training

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

Rocky Mountain Center for Compassionate Communication - Facilitator, Organizing Circle;
Rocky Mountain Storytelling Conference Board; current Coordinator for 2010 Applied Story
Conference in Collaboration with Metro State College; Spellbinders - Trainer, Co-Chair,
Program Coordinator, Resident Story-teller; B'nai Havurah Congregation – Homeless Initiative
team Forgiveness, Adult Learning Program, Long Range Planning Com., Teacher; and, Co-Chair
Collaborative Decision Making Committee, Denver Public School.

EDUCATION

Masters of Public Administration, University of Denver, August, 1981.

Masters of Social Work, University of Denver, June, 1981 (emphasis on Integrated Practice)

Bachelor of Arts, Psychology, University of Arizona, May, 1978.

AFFILIATIONS

National Association of Social Workers; Colorado Association of Social Workers - Current
Continuing Education Provider; Association for Spirituality and Social Work; Peacemaker
Institute; National Storytelling Network, with Professional Special Interest Groups: Healing
Alliance and Interfaith Groups; Rocky Mountain Storytelling Guild; Rocky Mountain Story-
telling Conference; Faculty at Swallow Hill Music School, and Qualistar (early childhood).

PUBLICATIONS, RECORDINGS, and DISTINCTIVE HONORS

“Peace in the Family: Stories, Skills and Activities to Build Healthy & Peaceful Families”,
Diving in the Moon, Professional Journal, Fall, 2008, National Storytelling Network.
Stress Management for Whole Parent & Whole Family; Positive Discipline; Create Harmony in
Your Relationships: CD Conference Recordings, Waldorf Conferences, 2006 and 2007.
Building Bridges Between Cultures, Greeley Public Library Community Program, Fall, 2007.
Pulling on the Threads of Story: Intentional Use of Storytelling for Social Workers, CD and
Booklet, Continuing Education for Colorado Association of Social Workers, 2006
Recipient of 2006 National Grant to Pilot Family Peace Education: Peace in the Family
“This is How I See It!” , Storytelling and Social Justice, Storytelling Magazine, National
Storytelling Network, September/October, 2006, Volume 18, Issue 5, pp. 32-34.
Applied Storytelling for Change, State Social Work Conference, 2007.
“Healing Story for Transition...”, Storyteller and Listener, on-line Professional Blog.
Mary Culkins & Naropa Teacher Training Series, 2004: Nurture Your Classroom Soul
“Teaching Nonviolence Through Storytelling”, 2002 National Conference Presentation.
“Story talking & Story listening - Keynote”, Youth Peace Leadership Conference, 2002.