



Nonviolence Education Institute

A fellowship to enrich schools and transform lives

Mission

The mission of the Nonviolence Education Institute (NEI) is to bring educators and school personnel together, as fellows, to reflect and engage in the practice of nonviolence for the purpose of building and sustaining a positive school community.

Goals

- To learn and internalize Dr. Martin Luther King's theory of nonviolence
- To provide practical tools to implement nonviolence in educational settings across Rhode Island
- To foster effective interactions among school community members and create a safe and supportive educational environment for all
- To create a statewide professional network of nonviolence educators and school personnel
- To reaffirm and reinforce our individual passion and motivation for working with students

Why is this important?

NEI is a proactive approach to transforming classroom culture. NEI will help teachers design lessons that incorporate conflict resolution, which will sustain healthy school communities that embody the values of nonviolence. Additionally, educators and school personnel will learn tools to reform their classrooms so that even students with the most disruptive behaviors can learn and thrive.

Bullying and violence in schools is a pervasive problem that affects millions of students nationally each year. For example, nationally, a staggering 42.9% of sixth graders reported being bullied at school during the 2007 school year (U.S. Department of Education). That same year, 1 in 3 ninth graders reported being a victim of bullying at school.

Aside from the emotional and physical harm it causes for students, violence at school can be very disruptive for teachers because it takes away from valuable learning time in the classroom. NEI will give teachers and school personnel the tools to help make their schools safe learning environments for all.

When will this take place?

During the 2011 – 2012 schoolyear, NEI will take place in two phases. The first phase is a 2-week Institute to be held from July 11 to 14 and from July 18 to 21 at the Institute for the Study and Practice of Nonviolence in Providence. The second phase engages fellows in monthly follow-up reflection sessions. Throughout NEI, fellows will have the opportunity to meet with local and national experts in the field of nonviolence education. In addition, they will receive ongoing support and assistance from NEI facilitators.

If you are an individual, school district, foundation, business, or organization who would like to help with recruitment, funding, or in-kind donations to support NEI, please contact PJ Fox by calling (401)785-2320 ext. 220 or by email pj@nonviolenceinstitute.org or email Robin Wildman bobbywildman22@hotmail.com.