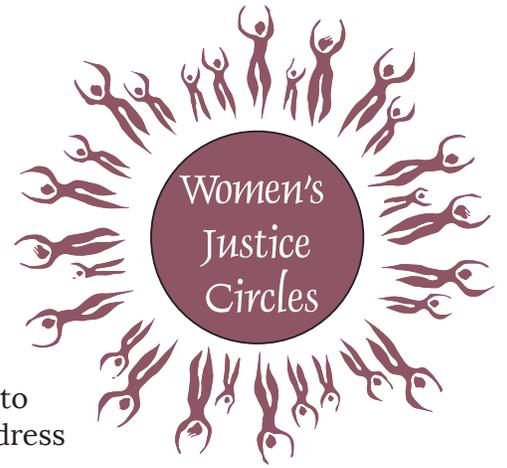


What is a Women's Justice Circle?



The voices of women who are low-income and/or immigrants, women living in crisis and those on the margins are not typically included in organizing for change in a way that meets their needs. The Intercommunity Peace & Justice Center facilitates Justice for Women, to empower women who are low-income to find support networks to address the underlying causes of poverty by forming Women's Justice Circles.

What distinguishes this program from others is that low-income women are in the lead and collaborate with others to identify the specific conditions and systems that need to be changed. Women who are migrant workers, immigrants, homeless, survivors of domestic violence and/or working in low wages jobs are joining other women across the economic spectrum to name their issues and work collectively to take practical steps for self-sufficiency, create a more promising environment for their children, and bring about systemic change for a more just community. They analyze their situation, gather information, design campaigns, recruit others, and take concrete steps that lead to systemic change in areas including housing, healthcare, education, transportation, domestic violence prevention, and immigrant issues.

Circle successes include restoring state funding for housing and emergency shelters, collaborating with the city council to improve education and law enforcement, changing the transit system to meet the needs of women who are low-income and have small children, and creating district and state-wide school system changes affecting immigrants and communities of color. My hope as Justice for Women Coordinator is to increase the number of circles across WA state to empower a greater number of women and strengthen social networks for community support, coping strategies, community organizing skills, and leadership training.

I would like to know if you are interested in:

1. Facilitating a Justice Circle.
2. Referring an organization or contact person that might benefit from this program.
3. Referring potential participants.
4. Sharing a space/site for a Justice Circle.

If so, please don't hesitate to contact me at (206) 223-1138 or e-mail.

Together we can make a difference in the lives of these women and our community as a whole!



Giselle Cárcamo
Justice for Women Coordinator
Intercommunity Peace & Justice Center