

Community Trainer Application

Immigration is being used as a wedge issue that impacts not only proposed immigration policies but many progressive policies. In the SCHIP debate, elected officials who wanted to prevent expansion of the program to include more children falsely said that expansion would include coverage of undocumented children. They were able to change the subject from a progressive frame of covering all kids to a negative and anti-immigrant frame that effectively killed the expansion.

NWFCO's Community Dialogues program is designed to help bridge the gap between immigrant and non-immigrant communities. Through conversations and interactive training formats, people will learn to evaluate the core value systems that drive the immigration debate. This program will provide an opportunity to change the way America talks about immigration before the next time Congress takes up the issue. Participants will learn about the Welcoming Idaho campaign and ways to use the sessions in calls to action on local campaigns.

Trainers selected to participate in this program will learn how to lead conversations about our real values with small groups of people from their own communities. The program will provide trainers with cutting-edge tools, like board games and videos, to inspire interesting and in-depth conversations about what we really believe, what kind of community we want to live in, and how immigration policies can build or destroy our communities.

We are looking for a few good trainers – people who care deeply about social, racial, and economic justice and want to work for comprehensive immigration reform. If you care about your community and the direction it is headed in, and you enjoy talking to your neighbors, friends, and community members about important issues, this could be the program for you.

Trainers will commit to attending an all-day train-the-trainers session on February 16, and returning to their communities to host three to five community conversations. NWFCO staff will work with trainers to help plan these conversations and provide training support. The trainers group will reconvene periodically to share training experiences, provide feedback, and learn new conversation pieces to share with their communities.

NAME

TELEPHONE AND BEST TIME TO CALL

ADDRESS

CITY

ZIP

ORGANIZATION

E-MAIL

LANGUAGES SPOKEN

What makes you care about justice for immigrants?

What experiences have you had teaching or training other adults?

Can you tell us about a time you changed someone's mind about a difficult or controversial issue? How did you do it?

Will you be able to meet with three to five groups over a two-month period to lead conversations about immigration?

Can you think of some groups you might be able to meet with? (For example: your local CAT or local food program, your church's social justice committee, a high school history class, etc.)