

Facing up to the Future Recruitment

The course

Planning and leading a community dialogue¹ event.

Aims

- Learn how to design and run your own community dialogue event, aimed at tackling community differences and issues.
- A flexible 30-hour programme to train people to resolve conflicts and build peace – at home and in the community.
- Designed and run by the Peace Foundation to help build community resilience and practical skills in running dialogue events.

Rationale

Victims and survivors:

- often report that they do not want others to experience what they have experienced.
- gain a very powerful ‘voice’ and ability to stimulate change and ‘make a difference.’
- need to cope, and where possible recover as best they can’ to find what has become known as a ‘new normal.’

This course is designed to meet this rationale.

Eligibility

In Northern Ireland, the course is funded by the EU’s PEACE IV managed by the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB) and the only eligibility requirement is that the course is for adults (18 plus) identified as a victim or survivor under the Victims and Survivors (Northern Ireland) Order 2006.

Registration

A simple e-mail message is all that is needed sharing contact details. One of our colleagues will contact you to answer all questions, discuss the commitment, course dates. Please note we are aware that some people will need absolute assurances about the other people who are on the course and we will work hard to understand all circumstances and ensure everybody in each course is comfortable with the other participants.

¹ Dialogue in the context of the Troubles has quite a specific meaning and tends to relate solely to the conflict and ongoing peace process. Dialogue in the context of this course is much more about tackling and issue at conflict or that could lead to conflict.

The commitment

The course is flexible, and we work that out with participants to try and cover off aspects such as work or childcare, missing a session, catching up. Importantly there is no pre-work or homework – all work is done within the course run time. Each participant keeps a workbook that is used to gain a qualification at the end of the course. As it is delivered remotely by technology, it can be done from an office or from the comfort of your home.

It lasts ten weeks and is three hours a week.

Methodology

Two Peace Foundation associates lead the course, and it is very much about learning. We will tell you about our approach when you register an interest, but we work carefully to make sure everyone is comfortable by the way we teach and learn.

Technology

The course is delivered online using Zoom Education Meetings. Participants will need a PC/tablet with sound and camera capability. They will also need a Wi-Fi connection. No additional software or technical knowledge is needed. Our course team will show everybody how to use the technology.

Participants

We aim for ten to 20 people on each course.

After the course

You will receive a box of materials and are free to use your skills as much or as little as you wish. We do not check-up or follow up although we will share details so you can keep in touch with people you have met or us as appropriate.

The Peace Foundation

This course started out being called Women for Peace and Communities for Peace. It was first delivered with groups in English northern towns and cities and always in person. It has now been adapted to online.

The Peace Foundation works extensively on programmes and support related to Northern Ireland conflict related incidents. We fully understand that context in Northern Ireland is different to elsewhere in UK and Ireland. This course is for people affected by such violent incidents. It should be noted the dialogue is not primarily about dealing with the past but more about generic conflict that may be experienced in any jurisdiction and relating to any event or incident that could lead to conflict, not necessarily violent conflict or related to past events.

The Peace Foundation does not pursue causes, does not campaign, is not faith based, is not politically aligned. We work only for peace.