5-1-2013

Kernel of Hope

Gina Castillo
Linfield College

Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalcommons.linfield.edu/kemper_2013

Recommended Citation
http://digitalcommons.linfield.edu/kemper_2013/7

This Presentation is brought to you for free via open access, courtesy of DigitalCommons@Linfield. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@linfield.edu.
A woman who had been:
  – Born into poverty to parents who were drug addicts
  – A foster child
  – A victim of child abuse
  – Homeless
  – A survivor of years of domestic violence
  – Less than an eighth grade education
  – Didn’t think she was capable

Overcame the odds against her-I wanted to find out what really made the difference for her, find out if she was an anomaly, and wondered how to help other women who had a similar history
I promise you—an individual who has been told that she is incapable or unintelligent, cannot *simply* leave these ideas behind because she is *simply* told otherwise. A skill must be owned, confidence must be restored, and a notion must exist that she can be powerful in affecting change in her life.
"Electronic Stalking: It’s Not In Her Head”

• Trainings for Women in Crisis
• Trainings for Advocates
• Trainings for Service Providers
• Advocacy
• Webinars
• Empowerment
• Research and Development

Kernel Of Hope

• 16 week program
• Opportunity to improve self-esteem, self-efficacy
• Meet other women like them who are truly self-sufficient
• Learn high level skills
• Become involved in community and give back

◆ Offered to DOJ, CAA’s and hopefully soon to JOBS program participants

Facebook
Accomplishments

✧ Website (needs work)
✧ Radio
✧ Built course plan and presentation for both the Safety Program and the KOH
✧ Wrote a research proposal
✧ Secured a security expert and computer programmer to partner in R&D for security program
✧ Partner with Henderson House
  ✓ Trainings held for advocates and clients
✧ Partner with A New Leaf
  ✓ This was a great way to get into DOJ and test my theory
✧ Approved by DOJ to enter CCCF
  ✓ Will be evaluating their program vs. mine since I will have access to their releases
✧ Partnered with YCAAP
  ✓ Beginning classes as part of mandatory case plan
✧ Built a board
✧ Raised $500
✧ Advocacy
✧ Additional Relationships with: Salem Leadership Foundation, Personnel Source, Clearwater, + + +
Webinar on the 23rd at Linfield
Class added as YCAAP client’s transition plan
Finding a home?
Continuing research proposal
Grant writing
Approaching DHS
Lessons Learned

– We can’t keep our miracles to ourselves
– Mistakes will happen ($50.00 bylaws) best to learn from others’ mistakes!
– Stay focused on my purpose (but some acceptance of “non-related, unglamorous tasks goes a long way to fostering relationships) geeks beware 😊
– Trust in the process-things may not go the way I want, but if they are meant to be they will happen
– Create something that can be replicated
– Keep track of everything I do (for when I get down, or an opportunity presents itself)
– Mentors are essential
– People can get upset if they think that you are going to create more work for them (or less)
– Only work with people who care about doing the next right thing for the right reason, even if it looks too good to pass up
Final Thoughts

– By doing the next right thing, for the right reason, it has positioned the program to be exactly where it should be
  • the best opportunities for KOH to grow and become a reality have been able to present themselves because I took our course readings to heart

– Thankful for Strengths Finder Profile and Path With Heart
  • it allowed me to relax into my strengths.
  • I denied my desire to approach the program with an attitude of self-will and trusted

– I took the time to collect information(Input) from a variety of sources and individuals, allowing myself to truly learn (Learner) through absorption. This took an enormous amount of belief that things would work out as they should(Belief), meaning that I trusted that people are all connected(Connectedness) and that by combining these strengths the communities I am a part of can come together to foster restoration(Restorative).
I am so very thankful for the opportunity to learn about myself, and well, simply having the freedom to try to make and make a difference.

Thank you Kemper Foundation, Linfield College, Kristi McKay, and Professor Jeff Peterson.
Kernel of Hope is a culturally responsive educational program that intends to reverse the effects of learned helplessness by empowering women through the use of computer technology and community involvement. Through a sixteen week culturally responsive training course, women who meet the criteria of being an Overcomer will be given the opportunity to improve self-esteem, meet other women like them who have become successful, learn high-level skills, and challenge their notion of their ability to influence the way they are viewed in society. In the first couple of weeks they will be exposed to texts and films depicting women in their social situation. They will be required to find stories, text, and films that relate to their socioeconomic and cultural perspectives. They will then move into a high-level technical-hardware and software training section that will serve to challenge the gender stereotype that computer technology is a man’s work. In this section they will learn that they are capable, and that they can control this powerful piece of equipment. They will then take their skills out into the community, to faith based organizations and other community partners in need of services and infrastructure. This offers a non-threatening environment to practice communication with members of the community. Towards the end of their training they will then educate the next class of students on self-esteem, self-efficacy, high-level technical skills, and community involvement. These women will continue to attend support groups, building a community of like minded individuals and will be supported in finding funding for further education, and jobs.