



# TRAINERS MENTORING CIRCLE

The mission of the TMC is to set standards and oversee the path to becoming a certified council trainer and facilitator in the "Ojai Foundation, Way of Council" lineage.

Winter 2017

## Greetings and Happy New Year 2017 from the TMC!

Your TMC members, Jack Zimmerman, Lori Austein, Kate Lipkis and Bonnie Tamblyn are happy to check in with you all and share this important information as we begin the New Year.

### What's New?

- **Administrative Support:** With the generous support of *The Ojai Foundation*, and other individuals, we are pleased to let you know that Sarah Bryant has stepped into the role of part-time administrative support for the TMC. Sarah is a seeker with experience in both hospital administration and yoga. Additional and ongoing funding for this position is still in process. This position is responsible for:  
Scheduling, coordination and recording of calls; Correspondence with mentor pairs, supporting organizations, the trainer body, witnesses and Elder Council; Maintenance of archives, spreadsheet of certified trainers, list of all mentors and mentees, and documents regarding best practices and protocols; Responding to outside questions and relaying to TMC; Witnessing, as invited, on TMC interview calls; Participating on organizational and conference calls, as needed; Point person for budgetary and funding matters;  
Assistance with annual trainer confirmation ceremony.
- **TMC Email & Documents:** *The Ojai Foundation* has provided us with an email address. [tmc@ojaifoundation.org](mailto:tmc@ojaifoundation.org). We check this regularly and **we invite your communication**; Questions, concerns, requests for support, celebrations, etc. *The Ojai Foundation* will also be offering us space on *The Ojai Foundation* website for these TMC Docs.
  - **Trainers Path**
  - **Facilitators Path**
  - **Leading Council Training 1, 2, and 3**
  - **An Offering from the Elder Council about the TMC, June 7, 2016: a vision for TMC**
- **New Certified Trainers:** In December, a completion call welcomed Arrowyn Husom, mentored by Jared Seide and Yamin Chehin mentored by Gigi Coyle to our growing Trainers Body. Our new trainers will be under our beloved Teaching Tree this July. While we appreciated the leanness of the completion calls at 20 minutes we have decided to pilot extending these calls to 30 minutes. Another Mentor/Mentee call for completion is scheduled for late January.
- **New Path Walkers:** A call is scheduled for March to invite new Mentees onto the Path.
- **Center for Council 2017:** Congratulations to C4C for the launch of a new cohort of trainers in training from the Social Justice Program beginning on their path January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017  
**Check out [centerforcouncil.org](http://centerforcouncil.org) for details.**

## What's in the Works?

- **Collaborating with the LCC Working Group:**

**Camille Ameen, Siri Gunnarson, Shay Sloan and Laura Whitney**

The Listener-Convener Circle (working group) that arose from last year's Ojai Gathering and the TMC have been exchanging communication. We are defining the roles that fall within the mandate of the TMC as we work with the LCC to clarify their mission and how it incorporates the vision of what came to be known as CTAG. Criterion for defining these roles is what will truly serve the Trainers' Circle. More information will be forthcoming.

- **Trainers Path:** This living document has now been revised and will be available for all trainers and mentors upon request. Please email: [tmc@ojaifoundation.org](mailto:tmc@ojaifoundation.org)
- **Facilitators Path:** We are in the process of revising and revitalizing the 2010 document.
- **Leading Council Training 1, 2, 3:** This document is under revision to clarify protocols for leading C1 – C2 - C3
- **Mentors Path and Workshop:** This work is also in process. We've gathered the materials from Jack's prior Mentors trainings, as well as the material generated this summer by those who attended Bonnie Tamblyn and Joe Provisor's Mentors training. We are looking at crafting a one to two-day mentoring immersion.
- **A Mentor is: a carrier who has been a Trainer for three years who has co-led a minimum of five trainings.**

## Meet Your TMC

After a generous hand-off by our prior TMC members, including two joint calls, the current iteration of the TMC has gotten down to work.

We are establishing a rotation that contemplates two years of service for the elder member and a rotation for the remaining members with terms staggered such that the whole team does not leave at once.

**Lori Austein:** Council Carrier since 1999, Lori's roots were planted in council at Palms Middle School. Having moved to Vancouver Island twelve years ago, she continues to carry council with her most recent endeavor being a monthly practice group to mentor facilitators. She currently facilitates in schools, psychiatric practices, and for other therapists, and is delighted to serve on the TMC.

**Kate Lipkis:** Facilitator, trainer and mentor with the Southern California council community since 1999, working in schools, prisons and social profit agencies; hosts theme-based circles in her living room in Venice, as well as annually, with mothers and daughters, at The Ojai Foundation, where she sits on the Board of Advisors. She has offered trainings and presentations in Bali, Australia and New Zealand.

**Bonnie Tamblyn:** Council Carrier since 1992 ~ Crossroads School for Arts & Sciences, Archer School for Girls, Palms Middle School, Santa Monica Alternative School House, Katherine Michiels School - San Francisco, GirlFest - Hawaii, Member of the Nine; Facilitator, Trainer and Mentor. Keeper of the songline; honored to be in service.

**Jack Zimmerman:** For 35 years, Jack has trained and mentored many council facilitators; President of the Ojai Foundation from 1991-2007 and retired as Board Co-Chair in January of 2008 after many years of serving in that capacity; In private, therapeutic practice for groups, couples and individuals since 1975 and has authored several books in support of this work with his Life partner and co-author, Jaquelyn McCandless. He is the co-author (with Virginia Coyle) of *The Way of Council*, now in its Second Edition (2009).