

Dedicated to Service, Learning, and Community since 1996

Cycle Update

May 21st saw our project members furiously writing and drawing on long strips of butcher paper. They were talking, laughing, sighing, as they remembered the highs and lows of their experiences. The end result- three remarkable depictions of the events of the cycle. One senior, Philip Heller, in a burst of end of cycle creativity turned the 15-foot long graphic of his team's project into a card for clients and team members.

In February, three seniors, Steve Cato, Philip Heller, and Pat Vivian, started the cycle with a spirit of adventure and excitement. They were going to experiment with some new ideas to add value to the work CCP does with clients. That spirit of experimentation had already begun with the idea of spinning off a couple of smaller informal projects to accommodate the large number of project-ready clients that had applied for the cycle.

Three clients- Seattle Chinese Garden, Foundation for Sex Positive Culture, and The Service Board were eager to meet their teams. By the end of February, the seniors and teams had met with the clients for the first time, and the cycle was underway. Saturdays were lively sessions in which clients and team members shared their

experiences and insights with each other. Seniors provided helpful concepts and models to deepen everyone's understanding of the consulting process, dynamics of groups, and themselves as practitioners.

Each project had its own spirit and personality, but it was clear from the conversations that "a-ha moments" happened across all three projects. Clients shared new insights about their situations and discovered common concerns and challenges despite being three very different organizations. Team members reveled in the hands-on experiences of working with a client. The May 21st timelines and discussion celebrated accomplishments and lifted up key learnings from the Winter-Spring 2011 cycle.

CCP Needs

The current cycle began this month and the next one will begin February 2011. Please let us know if you can provide assistance in the following:

Clients:

We are always looking for client organizations seeking organization development consulting services. If you know a non-profit organization that could use our services, please encourage them to check out our website www.ccpseattle.org. They can sign up if it sounds right, and we will follow up to see if it is a good match.

Volunteer Consultants:

Tell your friends, family, and colleagues about the wonderful experience of being a CCP volunteer! They can find out more and sign up at our website by clicking [here](#). We frequently welcome back former volunteers who are interested in another volunteer assignment as well!

Space:

We are continually on the look-out for inexpensive (or better yet, FREE) space to hold our cycle volunteer orientations and Saturday community learning sessions.

If you have a lead, please email us at ccpseattle@gmail.com

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Client Corner

The Service Board (tSB) empowers youth to overcome obstacles and build strong community through snowboarding, public service, and a curriculum of social justice. Initially we reached out to CCP for strategic planning help, but discovered through the process that we first needed to focus on relationship building. The CCP team did some coaching with me and our Board leadership, and facilitated conversations at two board meetings around making tSB more sustainable for everyone involved.

CCP works well in community-based organizations, where the process and ownership of the work being done is so important. I was impressed with their “collaborative consulting” model; it really allowed us to utilize the gifts and talents in the room, and engage our board members in new ways.

This project helped us make space for having some really important conversations that kept getting pushed to the back burner...you know, those cultural, relationship pieces that don't have deadlines or funding deliverables



attached to them. Through our work with CCP, pieces of the Service Board's mission came to life, and we created new ways to live our mission every day. Core programmatic elements at the heart of our work with youth – like breaking bread together, and ending our meetings by sharing gratitude – will now be regular activities at our board meetings. And I am happy to report that everyone on the Board is more engaged and committed than they have ever been!

Ashley Miller, the SB Exec. Director

Volunteer View

CCP was recommended by fellow classmates in the OSR program as Seattle University, so I had a pretty good sense of what I was getting into, commitment wise. And I have to say - CCP was exactly the volunteer experience I was looking for: a perfect synthesis of practicing new skills (OD consulting), meeting and connecting with colleagues who are interested in this type of work, and helping nonprofit organizations in meaningful ways. My CCP team experience was quite powerful – a wonderful, real-world example of how a diverse group of people can bring so much more to the table than any one individual

can. We really enjoyed working together, and in fact are still meeting monthly to connect and support one another as we grow in our careers.

Our team worked with our nonprofit client on a board development project, and I felt we were able to offer something truly unique. Rather than parachuting in, offering a list of things to fix, then disappearing, we really engaged with our client on a deeper level, and helped them embrace some issues that were important but sensitive. The process itself was constructive, and allowed our client to work through their challenges in new



ways. It felt good to participate in a project that wildly exceeded the expectations of everyone involved!

*Kelly Mitchell,
CCP Volunteer*

Senior Spotlight: Travis Green

Travis Green is one of our newer seniors and a member of the Keepers of the Flame, our CCP steering committee. In early 2007, he joined the Flame group, and soon after was an opportunity to be the first senior developed from inside CCP. Travis says that being part of CCP has been a wonderful opportunity for him. He sees his experience within CCP as a mutually beneficial...he gives his time and energy in a variety of tasks in addition to being a senior and learns a lot in return. He really enjoys working with the great people who are attracted to CCP- seniors, volunteers, and the Flame group members- unique individuals, with diverse mindsets and interests. Being part of CCP fits perfectly with Travis's commitment to helping people to become what they want to be.



Though Travis came recently to CCP, his interest in people and groups goes back to his high school years. He became involved in school groups and discovered that he had some natural skills of facilitation and motivation to take on responsible positions in group efforts. Asked where he thought that interest came from, Travis said he was very influenced by his paternal grandfather who was involved in business. The combination of his interests in marketing and business, how they could advance the purpose of groups, and his enjoyment of people and skills in relationships really set the stage for his future success in business, consulting, and CCP. His own mantra- "help people do better."

Travis's path from high school to CCP involves interesting twists and turns. After college, Travis worked for ten years in corporate America, notably in responsible positions at Starbucks. Towards the end of that time, Travis decided to reconnect with his underlying passions and focus on what he really wanted to do. His ideas were strongly influenced by his desire to act as a global citizen in whatever he did. For three years, he traveled and lived in other countries for six-eight months at a time. He met his future wife Ticha during one of his travels to Thailand.

Finished with that extensive period of travel, Travis decided that he needed more education, and he chose the Organizational Psychology Program at Antioch University in Seattle. By broadening his approach to working with groups and organizations and gaining new skills through a focus on Organizational Development, he would be ready to contribute to creating a sustainable society. Travis came to graduate school with his skills and interest in people and the sensibilities of a global citizen. He

discovered his affinity with systems thinking and clarified his vision of a sustainability society and how we collectively might get to that end.

His career aim is to blend his business knowledge and experience, his commitment to sustainability, and his management tools and skills in working with people to create a sustainable society. He is currently consulting to a variety of mission-driven organizations, both business and not-for-profit. One of Travis's early clients came from his first volunteer experience with CCP.

When Travis is not consulting with his clients and volunteering for CCP, he is an avid Ultimate Frisbee player (twenty years); he especially likes being part of a community based on sportsmanship and the spirit of the game. His friends and family are very important to him. He lives in Seattle with his wife Ticha, who is Thai American, and he loves the ways they complement each other and the blending of their backgrounds and cultural learning from their relationship.

Did You Know?



Ohana

Dara's daughter, Ohanapecosh Faye Newell (named after a glacier on Mt. Rainier) was born on January 14, 2011. She is obsessed with crawling and standing up on anything, "Ohana" loves simple things in life like dropping her sock and bending over to pick it up again and again. Her favorite foods this week are mountain huckleberries and fresh peaches. She's quite the hiker, and climbed Stiletto Peak last weekend. She's very committed to CCP, and has only missed one "Keepers of the Flame" meeting since she was born.

Pat's granddaughter, Molly Vivian Ford, was born on January 17th, 2011. Molly has learned to clap, to crawl, and is now pulling herself to a standing position so she can reach more interesting things. She loves peaches, chicken, and grilled zucchini, eaten in chunks by herself.

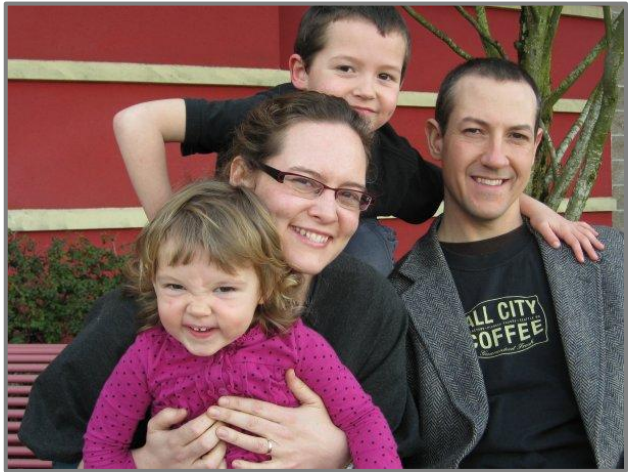


Molly

Thank You, Sarah Murphy-Kangas

In the fall of 2006, Sarah Murphy-Kangas was busy! She volunteered on a CCP team; she was finishing her graduate degree in Organizational Psychology at Antioch; she was in her last trimester of pregnancy. Her energy, learning, dedication, and effectiveness on the CCP team caught the attention of her Senior, Geoff Bellman. When the Keepers of the Flame were looking to increase our numbers and broaden our perspective, we asked Sarah to join the group. She exhibited the spirit of generosity and was committed to service we wanted.

Sarah joined the CCP "Keepers of the Flame" in 2007 and has given four years to advancing our work in the community. In the Fall of 2009, Sarah apprenticed with Pat Vivian as a Senior-in-training. She brought her sensitivity to group dynamics and experience as a consultant to that team. In 2010, Sarah was a Senior to her own CCP team. We've been so fortunate to have her with us; she is a model learner and coach—and lots of fun too! And we are sorry to say, we are losing her to Bellingham.



In June, Sarah, her husband Yancey, and their children, Wyatt and Loretta, moved "back home" to Bellingham. For now, the effort she was putting into CCP is going into remodeling their new home. We already miss her creativity, honesty, energy, compassion, humor, and fabulous culinary treats. We wish Sarah and her family the very best. (Check out Sarah's professional website <http://murphykangasconsulting.com/> and food blog at www.inpraiseofleftovers.com)

What is CCP?

Building on the spirit of learning and service, the Community Consulting Partnership (CCP) inspires people to join in learning about the organization development process while working as a volunteer consultant with local not-for-profit organizations. We seek to enhance our community's vital and diverse human bounty.

By participating in CCP, individuals develop their own knowledge and skills and magnify their power to positively influence the communities in which they live.

To learn more, visit: www.ccpsattle.org.