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## Session I, July 12-14, 2017

### 7. Generation Z: Children of Polarization

As global strife intensifies, the divergence between humanity and the environment results in an increase of war, racism, intercultural impasses, fear, genocide, forced migration, and lack of resources.

What are the effects of war on children? How do we recognize traumatic stress in our students and clients? What are the ethical values in a multilingual child-centered milieu? Most important, how do we best support our students' wellness and success? We will explore these questions and learn key essentials when working with children and their families who have experienced war, forced migration, and the threat of cultural devastation. Using strengths-based approaches, we will share cultural teachings and current practices honoring our children in a relational manner for intercultural wellness and success.

**Designed for:** School administrators, staff and teachers K-12, community college/university staff and faculty, intercultural communication teachers/trainers, health care workers, among others, who may find the workshop useful, both professionally and personally.

#### Workshop Objectives

You will have the opportunity to:

- Understand collective loss and learn to apply collective healing in supporting students who have had the "refugee experience"
- Acknowledge our ethical practices and personal responsibility in relationship with multilingual children and their families
- (Re)create and explore concepts from indigenous cultural frameworks for personal, professional, or academic practice

#### Learning Activities

- Applying intercultural concepts and practice into our personal, professional, or academic settings with multilingual children and students
- Exploring the relational process and collective healing in your setting through paired and group discussions
- Experiencing personal reflection through expressive arts and traditional cultural practices
- Gaining insight from the teaching of traditional cultures on how to practice personal responsibility, stillness, and the use of our senses



**Marie Sheffield, L.C.P.C.**, has worked for the past 16 years in the field of mass trauma and children, specifically children who lost a parent on 9/11 and children who have experienced forced migration from war and persecution to the Northeastern United States. During this time, Marie has maintained an intercultural community peer support program (4th-12th grades) in collaboration with The Center for Grieving Children and the public school system of Portland, Maine. In addition to consulting and training on the subject of intercultural communication, collective loss and healing, both nationally and internationally, Marie assembled and maintains an intercultural advisory council. This council is made up of the cultural leaders and advocates for the children served, ethnically insuring program quality, as well as social activism in the areas of intercultural awareness and equity in the surrounding communities. Her current pursuit is becoming a senior facilitator of Personal Leadership, a communication tool across differences.

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**Chenoa Bah Stilwell-Jensen** teaches intercultural communication at the University of New Mexico where she is completing her Ph.D. in the Department of Communication and Journalism in Health and Cultural Communication. Deeply rooted in a Navajo (Dine) and bi-cultural family, Chenoa Bah is active in the community with Native American elders and youth, promoting traditional foods and lifeways. She has worked extensively in educational, clinical, and governmental settings. Her experiences range from food and health policy development to K-12 school-based health promotion, and Indigenized intercultural trainings. She advocates for addressing the needs of historically marginalized, underserved, and vulnerable populations centering on cultural strengths, inclusion, and equity. Ultimately, Chenoa Bah cultivates the importance of restorative justice through the bridging of intercultural communication, Indigenous teachings, and collective wellness.

