



*A full-service consulting firm specializing
in child development, human development & organizational development.
Dedicated to transformative ideas and actions to shape an inspired world.*

Hello Notre Dame Family, Friends & Colleagues~

As we move into the holiday season and round out the introduction to our Fall Equity Series, we thank you for your presence, connection, emotional courage, collegial discourse, and perseverance during our time together. As many of you aptly noted during our professional development work, what we had experienced thus far is “just the beginning” or “a great start.” We know Zoom can be a challenging and exhausting format to engage in deep learning, especially around racial injustice, equity, and inclusivity. We want to champion your stamina, professional maturity, and dedication to yourself, the diversity and inclusion of your students, and your shared love for Notre Dame.

It is not easy to confront our hearts, viewpoints, and closely held beliefs and life experiences. We acknowledge the range of emotions expressed by many of you, from excited for substantive change to cautiously optimistic to questioning the process and experiencing emotional ambiguity. With a global pandemic, civil unrest, and national structural change, these unprecedented times can feel confusing and complicated, and yet the children are looking to us as a social reference. We want to thank you for modeling emotional courage, compassionate racial awareness, and showing a commitment to amplifying the legacy while standing on the pillars of Notre Dame’s school motto, “educating hearts and minds.”

As we continue our learning, let us remember the power of humanity. We also invite you to commit to self-compassion, to share your voice because it does matter, and to trust that the lens will be widened and more in-depth dialogues on inclusion and diversity along with meaningful strategies will be experienced. Attached to this email, we share a few resources from our Fall Equity series as a preview of the content we will provide to you as you work with us to co-create and build your personal and professional Equity Toolkit. We look forward to our work throughout November and December; however, it will be in the New Year that we must continue to move forward, as the Persian poet Rumi confessed, “The wound is the place where light enters you.” The breadth of the Holy Spirit is in these words. And the quote reminds us that the strength of our commitment and collective action effort can be the light through the pain. We don’t know our real capacity until we are all tested.

May the days ahead continue to bring us audacious faith and boundless hope.

Senta & Kathleen

FACILITATORS BIO:

Senta and Kathleen have over 30 years of educating and advocating for children and families across the human life span from early childhood to emerging adulthood. They have a proven track record in empowering schools and organizations to engage in conscious communication and practices surrounding equity and anti-racist practices. In their unique co-facilitation presentation style, they unite their voices to engage the participants in an experience exploring reflective practice, positive coping and personal empowerment with an emphasis on family engagement, cultural humility, and stemming the rising tide of children living in trauma and experiencing adverse childhood experiences. Senta and Kathleen use a range of participatory methods and custom designed processes that activate thinking, team building, personal connection, commitment, and direction with measurable results.

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