

## Mini-Retreat Facilitators

*We have facilitators to co-create space with participants that is open & hospitable, reflective & non-invasive, evocative yet focused - [a Circle of Trust](#)® - inviting noise within us & around us to subside so that each one in the Circle may hear more of their own inner wisdom.*

[Erika Brown](#) works to create, hold, and maintain the integrity of spaces where people can connect. She was introduced to Parker Palmer's work and the [Center for Courage & Renewal](#) through the practices of the [Circles of Trust](#) approach. She has used the practices in small group ministry, as a lay religious educator, and as a lay pastoral care team member. Having completed the [Foundations of the Courage & Renewal Approach](#) program, Erika is looking forward to the next steps in the process of leading programs rooted in the [Courage & Renewal](#)® approach.

At [Neighborhood Connections](#), Erika manages Training and Special Projects, and practices community network building by supporting diverse groups of people as they develop trust, build relationships, and co-create actionable plans together. Her commitment to ensuring resident voices are heard in decisions made in and about their communities informs every aspect of her work. She lives on the east side of Cleveland in the Mt. Pleasant neighborhood.

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[Kate Klonowski](#) aspires to achieve balance on the delicate web that intersects the perceived realities of our lives and the vastness that exists in and out of that perception. To be plain, she tries hard to remember that we are all part of and held by a magnificent and unfathomable whole and to not be so darn worried all the time. Kate spends most of her time and energy at [Case Western Reserve University](#) where her objective includes attempting to understand and learn from past and current community relationships to (hopefully!) work together in community to improve and enliven them. Kate is also working slowly and steadily toward a PhD in Cultural Foundations at [Kent State University](#), enjoys sharing her musical gifts, and is part of a large network of people of all backgrounds throughout the world who are focused on recognizing, tending, and healing the injuries imposed by supremacist thinking and acting.

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[Tony Vento](#) knows in his very soul the power of people coming together in respectful small circles, linked with other circles, for renewing & transforming ourselves, our workplaces, and our communities for the common good.

Tony loves fueling renewal and resilience by reconnecting “who we are” with “what we do,” as a [Purpose Matters](#) consultant, facilitator and trainer in reflective practices and organizational development. Tony brings over 35 years of experience alternating between cross cultural community building in two areas: 1) social change movements - locally, regionally, nationally, and internationally - and 2) multi-faith campus ministry in nonsectarian research universities.

Currently one of two facilitators in Ohio fully prepared by the [Center for Courage & Renewal](#) (CCR), Tony was trained by [Parker Palmer](#) and other leaders at CCR. Well-grounded in community applications of [Appreciative Inquiry](#), as well as the principles and practices of the [Courage & Renewal® approach](#) and [Circles of Trust®](#), he offers reflective practices for meaning and purpose as well as renewal and leadership, having designed and led over 90 retreats in the past 10 years. Tony is a training consultant for [Neighborhood Connections](#), including the Neighbor Up Network's [Community of Practice](#).