

From: Jason Golden <[REDACTED]>
Sent: 7/7/2020 11:10:30 AM
To: Josiah Holland <[REDACTED]>
Cc: Leigh Webb <[REDACTED]>; Erin Caceres <[REDACTED]>; Vickie Hall <[REDACTED]>
Subject: RE: Diversity and Listening Circles

Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Josiah,

I'm cc'ing Vickie so she's aware of your request as well.

Jason Golden
Superintendent
Williamson County Schools
[REDACTED]

From: Josiah Holland <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, July 7, 2020 11:02 AM
To: Jason Golden <[REDACTED]>
Cc: Leigh Webb <[REDACTED]>; Erin Caceres <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Diversity and Listening Circles

Good morning Mr. Golden,

With all that is going on in the world and our community right now, I applaud your desire to keep having conversations about how best to serve our students and families with the spirit of empathy and inclusivity. As you know, I've utilized restorative practice measures for the past 4 years in my work as a WCS administrator. It has been the foundation of success for our work at the ALC. I've been researching and contemplating on how to be the best educator and leader during this time and how to promote practices that allow all the unheard voices in our schools and community to be heard with dignity and respect.

Erin and I have worked together to research and meet with a team from Australia (via Zoom last night!) on a practice called "Listening Circles". I'd like to request a time to meet with you and allow us 15 minutes or so to share the practice with you and talk about the ability to host an event in the spirit of the Cultural Competency Council's work. Please let me know if you have time in the coming days to schedule this. I think it could be a really positive solution to the issues we're facing right now.

Thanks for your time and care for the WCS community,
Josiah

Josiah Holland
Director
Alternative Learning Center
Williamson County Schools
Office: [REDACTED]
Twitter: @wcsALC



From: Josiah Holland <[REDACTED]>
Sent: 7/7/2020 11:12:22 AM
To: Jason Golden <[REDACTED]>
Cc: Leigh Webb <[REDACTED]>; Erin Caceres <[REDACTED]>; Vickie Hall <[REDACTED]>
Subject: RE: Diversity and Listening Circles

Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Thank you!
Josiah

From: Jason Golden <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, July 7, 2020 11:11 AM
To: Josiah Holland <[REDACTED]>
Cc: Leigh Webb <[REDACTED]>; Erin Caceres <[REDACTED]>; Vickie Hall <[REDACTED]>
Subject: RE: Diversity and Listening Circles

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Superintendent
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[REDACTED]

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Josiah

Josiah Holland
Director

Alternative Learning Center
Williamson County Schools
Office: [REDACTED]
Twitter: @wcsALC



From: Josiah Holland <[REDACTED]>
Sent: 7/7/2020 11:01:59 AM
To: Jason Golden <[REDACTED]>
Cc: Leigh Webb <[REDACTED]>; Erin Caceres <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Diversity and Listening Circles

Attachments: [image001.png](#)

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Josiah

Josiah Holland

Director
Alternative Learning Center
Williamson County Schools
Office: [REDACTED]
Twitter: @wcsALC



From: Lamont Lester <[REDACTED]>
Sent: 7/7/2020 2:43:04 PM
To: Josiah Holland <[REDACTED]>
Subject: RE: Y-CAP Virtual

WARNING: EXTERNAL EMAIL - Do not click on links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello Josiah,

I'm definitely interested. I'm black!! Lol. I'm totally invested. I also think that it could be something that I use with a community group that I host. I would love for us to get together. I'm here every day and can make time. We can meet outside somewhere or at my office. No one is here but me so you don't have to worry about coming in contact with anyone. We can also wear mask and social distance as well. You're like me. We both have kids and families that we have to protect, so I'm being as careful as possible. Let me know what you schedule allots and we'll make it happen. Have a great rest of the day sir.

Sincerely

Lamont Lester
Program Director
**WILLIAMSON COUNTY Y-CAP
YMCA OF MIDDLE TENNESSEE**
[REDACTED]
P [REDACTED] F [REDACTED]
E [REDACTED] W ymcamidn.org

Our Mission: A worldwide charitable fellowship united by a common loyalty to Jesus Christ for the purpose of helping people grow in spirit, mind and body.

From: Josiah Holland <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, July 6, 2020 3:24 PM
To: Lamont Lester <[REDACTED]>
Subject: RE: Y-CAP Virtual

PLEASE BE CAUTIOUS: This message is from a sender outside of YMCA of Middle Tennessee
Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Wow! I love it. Thanks for sending Lamont.
Something I've been training on is a new kind of circle called "listening circles" and "compassionate witnessing" to allow students and community members to share their feelings and stories during this time. I want to help address the racism our students are experiencing and give them a voice to express how it affects them. I'll let you know as I train further and would even love to help host circles with YCAP if you're interested.
Hope you're well! Let's get together soon? If that's okay?
Thanks!
Josiah

From: Lamont Lester <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, July 6, 2020 12:55 PM
To: Josiah Holland <[REDACTED]>; 3 Ring Circus <[REDACTED]>; Alicia Sanchez <[REDACTED]>; Anthony Pickett <[REDACTED]>; Chris Ward <[REDACTED]>; Corey Smith <[REDACTED]>; Drew Freeman <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED]; Jay Platt <[REDACTED]>; 'Josh Brummett' <[REDACTED]>; Jodi Schroer <[REDACTED]>; Knickerbocker, Jennifer <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED]; Neil Knickerbocker <[REDACTED]>; Pastor Marvin Young <[REDACTED]>; Quontesa Chambers <[REDACTED]>; Rando, Joseph John <[REDACTED]>; Rita Reed <[REDACTED]>; Sean Moore <[REDACTED]>; Steven Saxton <[REDACTED]>; Tom Parrish <[REDACTED]>; Zannie Martin <[REDACTED]>

Cc: Alicia Sanchez <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Y-CAP Virtual

WARNING: EXTERNAL EMAIL - Do not click on links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Good Afternoon,

I just wanted to touch base to send you the final Summer Y-CAP Virtual schedule. It seems like a long time coming, but we are finally finding our footing in this new virtual world. Through much research, we have narrowed our focus and are presently moving forward with summer programming. Our virtual programming takes place on Tuesdays and Thursday with two different groups (community kids and the boys from My Friend's House). We have also put together a leadership team that is composed of student/ leaders that have attended Y-CAP in the past. This group of Y-CAP leaders are working in conjunction with myself to develop, recruit and execute our upcoming fall programming schedule. Their input and insight has been most helpful as we continue to find out where kids are mentally during these changing times. Y-CAP has been a safe place for them and they're excited about making sure that others have the opportunity to experience Y-CAP as well.

Needless to say, we are excited about the new opportunities that virtual learning will allow us to have. We're also making virtual space for Zannie Martin at the Juvenile Court, the Alternative Learning Center and Centennial High School students as we continue to find out about Williamson County schools schedule. With all of the uncertainty, we're looking to create a strong virtual platform that will be a "safe place" for young people to come and be encouraged during these difficult times. Our primary objective is to use these next few weeks as a learning and research opportunity, to get better and be more prepared in this new virtual space. Ideally, when schools decide which direction that they will be going in, we'll be prepared to move forward with a strong plan whether we're in person or if we have to continue virtually. Please feel free to chime in with any suggestions or reach out if you have questions. We're adjusting on the go just like everyone else, but I'm definitely encouraged by the support that we have received from you as well as our Y-CAP students. With our firm foundation and partnerships, we're going to be alright! Hope and pray all is going well with you and we look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely

Lamont Lester
Program Director

**WILLIAMSON COUNTY Y-CAP
YMCA OF MIDDLE TENNESSEE**

**P [REDACTED] F [REDACTED]
E [REDACTED] W ymcamidn.org**

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