



We Would Love To Partner With You!

Whole Child Connection envisions schools as communities of belonging and learning for everyone. Our mission is to facilitate transformation at the individual, classroom, building, and district levels, creating affirming, equitable, and relationship-centered learning environments. We work with caring professionals in schools and school districts to fully integrate **Social & Emotional Learning (SEL)**, **Restorative Practices (RP)**, and **Culturally Responsive-Sustaining Practices (CR-S)**. Our unique whole-child-centered approach supports student growth, school culture, and academics.

What are your priorities as a school or district?

Creating integrated approach to SEL, Restorative Practices, and Culturally Responsive-Practices

Whole Child Connection has partnered with districts to:

- Conduct a strengths and needs assessment and map existing initiatives
- Develop a vision and set goals
- Develop a comprehensive 3-5 year strategic plan for implementation
- Develop and facilitate internal workgroups to build capacity
- Provide professional learning on whole child approaches for staff
- Evaluate the impact of initiatives
- Facilitate planning for implementation of equity-centered Restorative Practices

"After working with the Children's Institute (CI) for a number of years, we have truly evolved into a dynamic partnership. What began as a mechanism for addressing students' social emotional learning through the lens of career readiness has grown into a model that positively impacts the culture of our school. Our colleagues from CI collaboratively plan and facilitate Professional Development to all staff, participate in monthly meetings for ongoing collaboration and strategic planning. Our success is attributed to the extensive collaboration, on site weekly support in classrooms, and commitment to our career readiness focus as the foundation for our work."

- Jill Slavny, Executive Principal, Monroe 2 BOCES Career & Technical Education Program

Developing restorative, culturally responsive, and strengths-based approaches to discipline

Whole Child Connection has partnered with districts to:

- Conduct data analyses to examine disproportionality in discipline
- Conduct a needs and asset assessment to inform action planning
- Facilitate year-long process with key stakeholder groups
- Revise code of conduct to be restorative, student-centered, and focused on supports and skill building
- Provide turnkey professional learning opportunities on restorative approaches

"I have had the incredible honor to work with The Children's Institute to support our School District through several initiatives. Most notably, Sierra Fisher and Mahreen Mustafa George have been invaluable thinking and planning partners as the District worked toward significant updates to our Code of Conduct to reflect a more restorative approach. Our partnership has progressed to include the creation of training modules for our leadership team and all District staff, opportunities to consult on individual situations, and third-party facilitation of restorative processes when needed. It has been a significant asset as a District leader to know that I have supportive, dedicated colleagues and friends at The Children's Institute to partner with through the new challenges we are facing in education."

- Shana Cutaia, Director of Student Services, Pittsford Central School District

Implementing equity-centered SEL practices schoolwide

Whole Child Connection has partnered with districts to:

- Identify culturally responsive SEL curricula and ethical assessment approaches
- Facilitate professional learning communities on implementing the NYSED SEL Benchmarks
- Provide practice-based coaching, modeling and observation
- Develop plans for incorporating equity-centered SEL into the curriculum
- Partner with students to develop an approach to student voice and leadership
- Conduct training series on SEL practices for athletic coaches across Monroe County
- Co-create an SEL toolkit and facilitate an Equity Champions team in support of implementation

"Children's Institute has been a model for valuable community partnerships with our District. Mahreen and Andrea were incredible thought partners and consultants when our District needed to develop a restorative response to a harmful incident concerning one of our sports teams. They genuinely led with a student-centered approach to the incident involving students and adults from multiple districts, and they unapologetically anchored our dialogue in a commitment to an anti-racist society. As a new professional, working with Children's Institute and seeing how they "walk the walk" provided me with some of the most valuable learning experiences I have ever had."

-Cedrick Simmons, Director of Equity, Greece Central School District

Responsive facilitation and Restorative supports

Whole Child Connection has partnered with districts to:

- Facilitate Professional Learning Communities to align restorative approaches and instruction
- Build a common understanding of an integrated approach to restorative practices with key stakeholders
- Facilitate restorative process after harm occurs and build understanding around challenging topics (e.g., bias, discrimination, current events, harmful language and behavior)
- Engage in restorative processes including initial meetings, circles, and follow-up
- Provide restorative recommendations and coaching that address interpersonal, institutional, structural and systemic harm



We would love to hear about your needs!

Contact Mahreen Mustafa George, Associate Director of Equity and School Services at mgeorge@childrensinstitute.net.



205 St. Paul Street
Rochester, NY 14607