



PRESS RELEASE

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Black Family Development Inc. Partners with Prominent Graduate School

Black Family Development, Inc. (BFDI) has partnered with the International Institute for Restorative Practices (IIRP), an accredited graduate school, to lead restorative practices initiatives in the region. The two organizations will work together to implement programs that have proven effective in reducing violence and increasing family and community engagement.

Black Family Development, Inc. is a private, nonprofit, comprehensive family-counseling agency, founded in 1978, which provides culturally sensitive quality services to families, individuals, community groups and organizations residing and/or operating in the Detroit/Wayne County, Oakland, Macomb and Washtenaw communities.

Alice Thompson, CEO of Black Family Development, Inc., says, "We wait with great expectation for the tremendous impact restorative practices will have in our community, schools and households."

The International Institute for Restorative Practices works with licensees and affiliates around the world to present restorative practices programs that are affordable and sustainable within the framework of local needs and resources in a culturally appropriate manner.

"We have a great deal of respect for Black Family Development's work in Detroit, and we believe we have found an ideal partner that has earned the community's trust and shares our passion," says John Bailie, Director of Continuing Education at the IIRP. "In restorative practices, we will give them additional tools to help give everyone a voice and promote strong leadership."

BFDI will host the IIRP in leading a Four-Day Institute: Basic Restorative Practices soon. This workshop (which participants may opt to take for IIRP Graduate School credit) imparts practical knowledge and skills that can be used immediately in one's personal and professional life—by those in education, criminal justice, social services, counseling, leadership, the pastoral field, volunteer or other work.

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