This webinar series is made possible through the Grassroots Organizing Institute (GOI), a program of the Groundswell Fund.
About Positive Women’s Network - USA

We Will Control Our Own Destinies; We are the “Positive Women’s Network–United States of America”
Posted on June 30, 2008 by penusa

Led by our constituency: women and people of trans experience living with HIV.

Mission:
To prepare and involve women living with HIV, in all our diversity, in all levels of policy and decision-making.
PWN sees the HIV epidemic, especially as Black, brown, LGBQ, TGNC, and low income are disproportionately impacted, as a symptom of larger inequities and injustice.

We organize to build power in communities most impacted by the epidemic.
Core Strategies

1. Leadership development
2. Organizing and mobilizing for strategic campaigns (issue-based & electoral)
3. Policy analysis and policy advocacy
4. Strategic communications

All center racial, economic, and gender justice
Our priorities

Read more at pwn-usa.org/issues/policy-agenda/
What's the PWN Block Party?

A summertime web-based series designed to build skills in grassroots community organizing.

WHY?

• Because racial, gender, and economic injustice hurts all of us.
• Because building power for our communities is all about listening to people's real concerns so we can address them.
• Because organizing depends on relationships and rigor.
• Because we're gonna be here after 2020 no matter what happens.
Ways to participate

● Chat
● Raise Hand
● Feel free to live tweet, our twitter handle is @uspwn
Courageous Conversations Toolkit ©
Tools for Transformation Series

Robert Gass
co-founder of the
Social Transformation Project
Today’s session is about...

Introduction to Courageous Conversations:

● A Paradigm Shift that empowers leadership
● Step 1: Assessing when to do it.
Courageous Conversation
Our lives are filled with challenging conversations.

What are some examples within social justice & movement?

What do we risk when we ignore them?
Courageous Conversations, Tool for Transformation ©

invite us to a paradigm shift:

These messy conversations are necessary evils or distractions from the important work.

I avoid these difficult conversations when possible.

These Courageous Conversations are critical opportunities to advance the work and the mission.

Every morning I scan my world and look for potential opportunities for Courageous Conversations that build partnership, deal proactively with potential disturbances and breakdowns, and further our goals...
When to do it: balancing risk-reward assessments

Step 1. Risks of Inaction

Step 2. Rewards of Courageous Conversation

Step 3. Risks of Courageous Conversation

Step 4. Assess Risks and Rewards

Step 5. Make a Clear and Committed Choice.
Four possible tactics to choose from:

Option #1: Have a Courageous Conversation

Option #2: Have a Courageous Conversation with help

Option #3: Make peace with what is

Option #4: Restructure the relationship
In review...

- Avoidance & discomfort leads to further conflict, so why not talk about it!
- Each situation is an opportunity to practice & model leadership.
- Base decisions on strategic thinking vs. your comfort/discomfort in dealing with the situation.
- Four options vs default option (avoidance)
- Practice, practice, practice!
Open Forum

Questions, Comments?
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Tools for Transformation Series

For more information on “How to prepare” and “Best practices” go to:
bit.ly/courageous-conversations2019
For more information

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Join us for our last webinar “Turning outreach lists into smart contacts” on September 14th.