



# Creating a Cohesive and Peaceful School Environment

*The Chicago Teachers' Center (CTC) is one of the few organizations in the Midwest that provides a comprehensive approach to team-building, one which models for schools how intellectual activity can be an integral part of group-focused challenges.*

*CTC is also at the forefront of introducing Motivational Interviewing which can counter violence and other negative behavior while improving retention.*



*Acquaintance activities bring diverse groups together.*

## Professional Development Options for Educators

### Teacher's Bag of Tricks for Classroom Cohesion

Expand teachers' capacity for classroom-based teambuilding. Includes cooperative games, portable communication and trust-building initiatives, and group problem-solving challenges focused on creating a caring classroom.

### Motivational Interviewing

Learn how to use the evidence-based behavior change strategy of Motivational Interviewing to help students improve their success and counter negative behaviors.

### Brain-Based Teaching and Learning

Understanding the latest research on the developing brain and how best to apply this research to your teaching. Includes a focus on learning and the adolescent's brain.

### The Caring Classroom Summer Institute

A 3-day summer institute led by Laurie Frank, author of *The Caring Classroom: Using Adventure to Create Community*. CPDUs can be arranged.

### Inquiry Based Instruction

Challenging students to ask real questions, find relevant resources, construct meaning and report new understandings is key to engaged learning. Institutes and conferences focusing on young adults literature, math and writing are available.

## Direct Service Options for Students

### Portable Teambuilding Courses

Cooperative, trust-building, communication and problem-solving activities for up to 2 class periods (100 minutes) at your school or at NEIU's campus as part of a field trip.

### Outdoor Adventure Teams Courses (off-site)

Adventure-based teambuilding activities where a variety of low ropes challenges are set up in a natural wooded area.

### NEIU Campus High Challenge Course or Climbing Tower at Broadway Armory

A high ropes course or climbing experience provides students with a metaphor for challenges faced by transition or change.

### Two or Three Day Leadership Camp

This outdoor camping experience includes lodging and meals, a full schedule of experiential interdisciplinary activities, and adventure courses.

### Motivational Interviewing & Experiential Learning

Students are referred to this activity as the result of their behavior or academic issues. Trained CTC staff members conduct one-on-one motivational interviews as well as motivational enhancement activities.

### Youth Leadership Development

This high school student leadership development initiative works to improve relationships between students from different backgrounds and enhance cultural understanding.

The following teambuilding options can be tailored and priced according to the needs of your school.

- Leadership Development
- Experiential Education
- Adventure-Based Teambuilding
- Self-Efficacy Development
- Inquiry Based Learning
- Social & Emotional Learning
- Restorative Discipline Practices
- Intellectual Engagement
- Peaceful School Culture
- Motivational Interviewing to Enhance Engagement and Positive Conduct