

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Lorraine Stutzman Amstutz, MSW

As Co-Director of the Mennonite Central Committee's (MCC) Office on Justice and Peacebuilding, Lorraine provides consulting and training for agencies/communities seeking to implement restorative justice processes. She has provided technical assistance and consulting for numerous programs primarily throughout the U.S. Lorraine has worked in the victim offender field since 1984 when she began working in Elkhart, Indiana, the site of the first Victim Offender Reconciliation Program (VORP) in the U.S.

Lorraine has co-authored the *Victim Offender Conferencing in PA's Juvenile Justice System* curriculum which is a 160-page manual focusing on the application of VOM/C within Pennsylvania. She has conducted skill-based training for volunteers as well as organizational trainings across the country. She has served as the keynote speaker for a number of organizational gatherings and conferences. She has also co-authored *The Little Book of Restorative Discipline for Schools* with Judy Mullett and *What Will Happen to Me?* with Howard Zehr. She has authored the "*Little Book of Victim Offender Conferencing*" all published by Good Books.

Lorraine served as Project Director for a listening project involving victims and their advocates in seven states responding to restorative justice. The final report from that project was released in July, 2002. She, along with Howard Zehr developed a photo/interview exhibit entitled "*Children of Incarcerated Parents*" that has resulted in the above-mentioned book.

For seven years (three as co-chair) Lorraine served on the international Victim Offender Mediation Association (VOMA) Board also served on the Board of the local victim offender program in Lancaster County, PA. She is also an Associate of Eastern Mennonite University's Institute for Peacebuilding where she has taught *Restorative Justice: The Promise, The Challenge* with Howard Zehr, Professor of Restorative Justice for graduate students in the Center for Justice & Peacebuilding Masters program. Additional courses taught include *Dialogue Facilitator Training: Crimes of Severe Violence* with Barb Toews (June, 2009). *Restorative Justice: The Practice* (May, 2004) with Harley Eagle and *Restorative Discipline in Schools*. Co-taught course with Judy Mullett, Professor of Education, Eastern Mennonite University, Harrisonburg, Virginia (2001).

Lorraine has served as a resource for states seeking to implement a program for facilitating crimes of severe violence dialogues. She also serves as a trainer for states ready to train staff and community volunteers as facilitators in these processes.

She received her B.S. in Social Work from Eastern Mennonite University in Harrisonburg, VA (where she was awarded the Distinguished Service Award for 2002) and her Master's in Social Work from Marywood University, Scranton, PA.