

## *COURSE AND WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS*

### Erica Toussaint

#### Creating a Climate of Encouragement in These Times of Change

The Bahá'í community is going through times of great change. How do we adapt and increase our love and unity while things are changing so fast? A practical, down to earth exploration of some of the needed elements for a climate of encouragement.

#### The Pivotal Role of the Local Spiritual Assembly in the Five Year plan

Local Spiritual Assemblies sometimes struggle with understanding their role with all the new array of agencies advancing the plan. We'll look at some of the practical experience of Assemblies who are playing a vital role in advancing their communities.

#### The U.S. is on Fire! Stories and Insights from Successes in America

### Regina Rafraf

#### Finding My Place in the Five Year Plan

Whether you are already involved in core activities and direct teaching in your cluster or if you have not yet participated, this workshop will encourage and inspire you to find a part to play!

#### New Clusters to Focus Our Help On

In order to meet the goals set by the Universal House of Justice, many of the clusters in our region will need help. Come learn how you can greatly assist to advance the process of entry by troops.

#### Expansion & Consolidation: Best Practices from A Clusters

Have you ever wondered what's working well in the A clusters that are experiencing high growth? We will consult together on some exciting learnings that you can implement in your cluster immediately.

#### What it Means to be a Baha'i in 2009

The Five Year Plan has redefined the vital roles of the individual, the community, and the institutions. This is a critical time to be serving the Faith. We'll have an interactive session to discuss what it means to be a Baha'i now.

### Mike O'Neal

Developing Coherence In Approaches to Community Building. We will be discussing how use of Five Year Plan reflection and the core activities can lend systematic thinking in creating a history of service to build on.

How do we talk about who we are and what we do? We will look at how the 5YP helps us say and show who we are.

## Baha'i Inspired Social & Economic Development (SED) Projects and a Baha'i Community Growing Together in the Five Year Plan

Using the example of Savannah GA, we'll explore what a healthy relationship can look like between an SED and the elements of the 5YP in a growing cluster.

## Moving Toward a World of Social Action

Taking time to think about the need to have coherence in our activities regarding teaching, public discourse and social action. We will look mainly at what social action might look like in the near future and why this is important for growth.

## Meishi & Michael Haslip

### Building Community Through Core Activities in Malaysia

This seminar shares a first-hand account of how Malaysia used the four core activities for community development and was then awarded by the government for transforming youth. Many lessons learned and inspiring stories are shared.

### Empowering Children

This seminar focuses on children's spiritual education for parents and for teachers of children's classes using Baha'i Writings, presents real-life stories of children's spiritual transformation, and concludes with an activity to inspire our service with children.

## Darren Hiebert

### Basic Teachings of the Bahá'í Faith:

What are the fundamental truths of Bahá'u'lláh's revelation that every Bahá'í should understand? How do I acquire certitude?

### Introduction to the Five-Year Plan

Why do we have a "plan"? What is the plan? Where did it come from? Why does every keep talking about it? Should it concern me?

### My Place in the Five-Year Plan

What is expected of me? What can I do to help? How can I help to save the world from the dire suffering that confronts humanity now and from that which lies ahead?

### Informal Q&A

Is there an unanswered question about religion that has nagged you for years? Is there something you don't quite "get" about the Bahá'í Faith yet? Do you have trouble resolving aspects of another religion with the Bahá'í Faith? Is there a question someone asked you that you didn't know how to answer? Where can you go to read for yourself the answers to specific questions?