# THE FERTILE GROUND PROJECT

Sowing the Seeds for Competent Leadership in a Diverse World





### **SOWING THE SEEDS**

The Fertile Ground Project is a workshop designed to introduce us to new ideas, theories and skills in order to help us build more diverse communities.

Rooted in the Gospel, The Fertile Ground Project helps us to affirm our individual cultures and helps us to positively engage another person's culture. Participants will find that this workshop addresses many complexities facing the church today with grace and respect.

The Fertile Ground Project is a shorter version of the Kaleidoscope Institute's multicultural competency training developed by the Rev. Eric Law. The workshop addresses issues surrounding cultural sensitivity, power struggles, differences in communication styles and other areas that affect how we relate to one another.

The Fertile Ground Project invites you to come learn how to build a more diverse and inclusive community that achieves a healthier balance of power, communication, respect and authenticity.

★ The Episcopal Diocese of Texas will recognize The Fertile Ground Project as fulfillment for racism awareness training mandated by General Convention. Six CEUs are awarded (3 professional, 3 personal)

### **WE WILL EXPLORE**

- ★ Self-awareness and a deep understanding of our own cultural values, strengths and weakness.
- ★ Differences as opportunities, rather than obstacles.
- ★ Renew our commitment to listening to different understanding of issues while still being able to make faithful decisions.
- ★ Engaging in active theological reflection on diversity issues as they relate to our self, others, and our community.
- ★ Learning appropriate skills, models and theories that will increase the inclusiveness of various situations.
- ★ Learning new ways to guide and support our community to move toward change faithfully in response.
- ★ Assumptions we make about others.
- ★ What it means to be a competent leader in today's world.
- ★ Recognize communication styles.
- ★ Understanding perceptions of power.
- ★ Study stages of intercultural sensitivity.
- ★ Practice respectful communication guidelines.
- ★ Ways to facilitate dialogue thru a process called "mutual invitation."



### **BOOKING A WORKSHOP**

Workshops are available in many flexible ways and can be designed to meet your specific needs.

A minimum of 12 participants are needed for the workshop, but we can also accommodate much larger groups.

Workshop locations can also vary. We can host it at your church, at one of our Diocesan offices, or another location of your choice.

## **FEES**

The workshop is offered free of charge to any church or organization within the Diocese of Texas. A donation may be made to the Diocese to help cover costs.

# epicenter.org/fertileground