



Hello

This semester, we at *A-Place-To-Call-Home*, are once again collaborating with *Sierra Academy of Expeditionary Learning (SAEL)* in the 10th Grade *Surviving & Thriving Expedition*. This year, we are enhancing the learning experience by introducing “Story Circles” into the expedition curriculum.

We are looking for adult community members to join with the students in each of the “Story Circles” to be held on April 1st from 12:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the SAEL campus in Nevada City. We’d like to invite you to be part of this experience.

A “Story Circle” is a small group of individuals sitting in a circle, sharing stories from their own experience focused on a common theme. As each tells a personal story, a larger and more complex narrative unfolds. By listening deeply to each other, individuals can see both real differences and commonalities in their experiences.

We have chosen to introduce “Story Circles” into the curriculum, because this process of sharing personal stories lifts up community challenges, needs, and aspirations, by sharing personal experiences rather than opinions. “Story Circles” help individuals discover their own thoughts about an issue and develop new ideas in dialogue with others. Creating an inspiring and safe space to listen to people’s experiences helps humanize complex issues, nurture empathy for each other, build bridges across differences, and generate local solutions.

Our SAEL *Surviving & Thriving* “Story Circles” will take about two and a half hours. They are most powerful and effective when they include people with different backgrounds and perspectives, which is why we value your participation.

Please let us know if we can count on your participation. We will give you all the details about the day, and how and where to check in at the school, when we hear back from you.

If you have any questions, give us a call or email us at:

ProjectDirectors@A-Place-To-Call-Home.org

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For more information about *the A-Place-To-Call-Home Project* and the *2019 California Humanities Documentary R&D Grant* we have applied for, please visit <http://A-Place-To-Call-Home.org>.

Warmest Regards,

Betty Louise & Susan M. Davis, APTCH Project Directors