

# Toward Right Relationship Workshop Facilitators

**Paula Palmer** is a sociologist, writer, and activist for human rights, social justice, and environmental protection. As director of Toward Right Relationship, a project of the Boulder Friends Meeting (Quakers), she created and facilitates workshops titled, "*Roots of Injustice, Seeds of Change: Toward Right Relationship with Native Peoples*" (for adults) and "*Re-Discovering America: Understanding Colonization*" (for middle schools and high schools, clubs, and religious education programs).

For 16 years, Paula directed the non-profit organization, Global Response, where she conducted over 70 international campaigns to help Indigenous peoples defend their rights and prevent environmental destruction. In Costa Rica, where she lived for 20 years, she published five books of oral history in collaboration with Afro-Caribbean and Bribri Indigenous peoples, through a community empowerment process known as Participatory Action Research.

Paula served as editor for health and environment of *Winds of Change* magazine, a publication of the American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES). She holds an M.A. degree in sociology from Michigan State University. She is a recipient of the Elise Boulding Peacemaker of the Year Award (given by the Rocky Mountain Peace and Justice Center), the Jack Gore Memorial Peace Award (given by the American Friends Service Committee), and the International Human Rights Award (given by the United Nations Association of Boulder County).

**Jerilyn DeCoteau** is a member of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians in North Dakota. As a lawyer, she has pressed for the rights of Indian tribes to govern themselves, control their resources, and insure human rights for their members. She practiced and taught Indian law at the U.S. Department of Justice, Native American Rights Fund, Indian Law Clinic at the University of Colorado, Yale Law School, University of Denver Law School, and Turtle Mountain Community College. She is currently an Associate Justice for the Pueblo of San Ildefonso Supreme Court, a judge on the Turtle Mountain Tribal Appeals Court, and is a consultant on tribal governance and capacity building.

Jerilyn is active in community organizations, serving on the boards of the YWCA of Boulder Valley, Reading to End Racism, Natural Law Resources Center, and the Denver Indian Health and Family Resource Center. In 2002 she received the Multicultural Award for Government by Boulder County Community Action Programs. She currently lives in Eldorado Springs CO, serves on the Board for the Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition.

Jerilyn's goals in life are to help make Indian communities stronger and healthier with greater opportunity for all tribal members, and to make Boulder county communities stronger by participating in organizations that promote awareness, acceptance through education, learning and shared experiences.

**Ann Cairns** has a long-standing interest in Native American history, cultures, and contemporary issues. She is a certified facilitator for *Christian Responses to Repudiation of the Doctrine of Discovery* through the Episcopal Divinity School, Cambridge, MA. She is currently completing the fourth and final year of Education for Ministry (EFM), offered through the School of Theology, University of the South, Sewanee, TN. Ann has additional training and experience in group facilitation and mediation, and she has taught meditation classes for more than 20 years.

Ann holds a B.A. degree in history and an MBA degree. She is a semi-retired communications, outreach, and marketing professional whose career has spanned the private and not-for-profit sectors. Her last full-time position was Director of Strategic Communications and Outreach for the American Geophysical Union in Washington, DC. While at AGU, she served on the board of directors of the Renewal Natural Resources Foundation where she received the President's Award for service to the foundation in 2012. Previous community service includes Boulder County United Way, where she reviewed and made recommendations regarding service providers' funding proposals, and the Boulder County Council on Aging where she served as Vice President.