



A Partnership for Supporting Common Core Implementation



Constitutional Rights Foundation (CRF) joins five other national organizations as the newest member of the Teacher Practice Networks (TPN), an initiative led by the Center for the Future of Teaching & Learning at WestEd. Since the TPN's launch in 2013, forty-seven local and national organizations have participated in the initiative to accelerate and support teachers' instructional practices aligned to the Common Core State Standards (CCSS).

CRF, in partnership with schools and districts, is focused on developing and sustaining a network of social studies teacher leaders who lead their peers in teacher-to-teacher professional learning aimed at improving the rigor of instruction to ensure all students are college- and career-ready. In addition, CRF is working with the Florida Joint Center for Citizenship at the Lou Frey Institute housed at University of Central Florida and Carolina K-12 at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill where both organizations will also work with Teacher Leaders on this project.

CRF supports its Teacher Leaders to lead teacher cohorts through collaborative learning experiences, providing access to standards-aligned instructional strategies and facilitating cycles of inquiry for deepening practice through intentional and focused professional learning.

Supporting a Network of Teacher Leaders

CRF is working with six pairs of Teacher Leaders in Los Angeles, four in both Chapel Hill and Orlando. CRF, along with our partner organizations, provides specialized face-to-face and online professional development to Teacher Leaders to hone their skills in implementing Common Core and provide ongoing support as they facilitate professional development activities with their own cohorts of teachers.

Professional Learning for Teachers

Focused on Common Core implementation for Social Studies teachers, each cohort will focus on one specific instructional skill: scaffolded complex text, student-directed academic discussion, or critical thinking assessments (with overlap among the topics). All cohorts will also focus on intentionality and precision in lesson planning and instruction. Our work is also aligned with state content standards and in California, the updated History/Social Science Framework.



Participating teachers will be provided with several face-to-face sessions, opportunities to teach a specific strategy and reflect on successes/challenges with their Teacher Leaders and cohort, live webinars, and various online activities over the course of the academic year. Teachers will also receive free curriculum materials.

Teachers who fully participate will receive a stipend of \$200, free CRF lessons/resources, and meals at face-to-face sessions. In addition, teachers who participate in grant evaluation activities will receive an additional \$60.

Evaluation activities include brief, self-report surveys to gauge the impact of the professional development on their instruction as well as collection and analysis of an artifact (lesson plan or teacher-created classroom assessment). No student achievement data or formal teacher evaluation activities are required.

CRF will provide certificates of participation for teachers and would be delighted to feature your teacher(s) and school in newsletters and outreach!

Teachers can visit the link below to join a cohort: <http://www.crf-usa.org/t2collab>

Please feel free to contact CRF if you would like more information:

Keri Doggett, Director of Program
213.316.2115
keri@crf-usa.org

Laura Wesley, Assoc. Director of Programs
213.316.2128
laura@crf-usa.org

The Center for the Future of Teaching & Learning's Teacher Practice Networks is an initiative funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.