

INFORMATION: EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Mike Cooney has led his unique and highly successful workshops in stress management, and team building for governmental agencies and corporations all over the United States, Puerto Rico and in Europe.

His background in teaching, therapy, community organization, and drug and alcohol intervention, enable him to relate to all groups and provide the basis of student centered teaching. It also enables him to relate across organizational lines and to develop safe and supportive environments for learning and growth. Because of his training and experience as a therapist, he is able to recognize personnel problems and help supervisors and managers to deal with them in a successful manner.

His formal education includes two Masters degrees, in addition to his BA in psychology. He studied for 5 years with Dr. Jack R. Gibb, a pioneer in the organizational consulting field, whose primary emphasis was on establishing trust based, interdependent organizations. It is that vision and focus which is at the center of Mike's training and consulting.

His journey working with people began as a United Methodist minister working with gangs in Los Angeles. In that capacity he developed a community center, the Oakwood Wesley House, in the Oakwood neighborhood in Venice, CA. There he established the first Head Start program in Los Angeles, organized a program for disadvantaged children and youth, and gained "on-the-street" experience in listening skills, community organizing, diversity, and conflict resolution.

From there he became a teacher and therapist. He taught counseling, child development, group counseling and philosophy at Southwestern Community College. He also received his licenses as a Marriage, Child and Family Counselor with special state certification in Clinical Hypnosis.

The journey then led to the position of Staff Development coordinator of San Diego County Mental Health Services, where his responsibility was to develop and oversee staff training for the Mental Health Services. But his desire to work directly with people led to becoming a mental Health Consultant for the Community Services department of Mental Health Services and he was back on the streets doing community services and organization. This is when he began to develop his now very popular stress management and team building workshops. He became an instructor in stress management for the San Diego Sheriff's Regional Training Academy.

In 1982 he went into private practice as a therapist and began to develop his own consulting business, Cooney Training and Consultation. This led to opportunities to provide person centered training to a multitude of governmental, corporate, non-profit and educational agencies from San Diego to Scotland. In addition to stress management and team building, his training offerings now include: communication skills, conflict resolution, violence in the workplace, handling difficult people, change management, supervisory skills, and management consultation. He also conducts the 7-day Supervisory Academy for the Regional Training Center where he has been a contract trainer since 1985

In the last four years, Mike has developed a new workshop on dealing with negative people in the workplace. After a number of years of research, he has brought unique new insights and strategies to deal with one of the most troublesome personalities in the workplace.