

**8TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE ON
TRANSFORMATIVE LEARNING
March 31-April 1, 2016**

PROCEEDINGS SUBMISSION

**Proceedings Format:
ABSTRACT**

**Presentation Type:
RESEARCH**

EVALUATING A COMMUNITY BASED TRANSFORMATIVE LEARNING PROGRAM

A RESEARCH PRESENTATION

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ABSTRACT

The Possibilities Innovation Program (PIP) trains individuals as community developers to positively impact themselves and their communities. The PIP is a year-long program offered by Possibilities, Inc., that takes individuals through disruption and reflection, resulting in different world views. In contrast to traditional non-profits that deliver services easily counted, PIP results were assessed through mixed methods to ascertain the impact to individuals and communities. The qualitative results gained from focus groups, and on-going reliance on personal histories are indicative of personal transformation, yet are challenged in a quantitatively focused society. This presentation will present the methodology and share some of the histories. There will also be discussion of the difficulties in gaining acceptance of qualitative research. The research model is replicable by those who offer transformative opportunities to clients.

SELECT REFERENCES

Boyd, D. (2011). *Under the Radar: Popular Education in North America*. Paper presented at the annual conference of the American Association for Adult and Continuing Education.

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Kirkpatrick D.L., & Kirkpatrick J.D. (2006) *Evaluation training programs*. San Francisco: Berrett-Koehler publishers, Inc.

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