

## Blending the Best of Business and Community Building!

**Community Partners Institute** is a merger of DM Candy Consulting Group, Pittsburgh and JE LaPointe, Boston. Its inaugural project, Find the Rivers!, engages neighborhoods in river related planning and development, in partnership with Pittsburgh's RiverLife Task Force, Hill District Consensus Group, and Carnegie Mellon University.

### What We Do

Working with leaders, work groups, and teams in organizations, communities, and universities, we:

- Build skills and tools that facilitate full engagement of diverse participants
- Develop and revitalize the capacity of people to create and sustain viable organizations and communities
- Accelerate the development and implementation of right practices to achieve sustainability and effective outcomes for programs, projects and initiatives

As facilitators, planners and thinking partners, we bring a unique approach that blends the **pragmatism and entrepreneurial spirit of business** with the **ethos of partnership and inclusion of community building**.

### Project and Program History

#### Community Building and Dialogue

- City of Pittsburgh Human Relations Commission
- Inter-Community Economic Development Planning, Pittsburgh
- Find the Rivers! Pittsburgh
- Random Acts of Kindness, Wilksburg, PA
- Syracuse University/Rosamond Gifford Charitable Corporation, Syracuse
- Wilksburg, PA, Community Arts Initiative

#### Sustaining Right Practices

(Strategic Planning)

- US Army Corps of Engineers
- Boys and Girls Clubs of America
- Community College Beaver County, PA
- Community House, Pittsburgh
- Chautauqua Foundation Board
- Center for Transformation, Xerox Corp.
- Department of Trade & Industry, UK
- Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield, PA
- National Committee to Preserve Social Security & Medicare Board
- O'Brien/Atkins Associates Architects, NC
- Pittsburgh AIDS Task Force
- Proctor Academy, NH
- Reginald Maude Ltd, UK
- Stride Rite Corporation
- VHB - Planning & Engineers, MA

#### Training & Program Development

- A Second Chance Inc., PA
- County Wexford Partnership, Ireland
- Hill District & Homewood Community Collaboratives, Pittsburgh
- Random Acts of Kindness Community Building Model, PA, CA, CO
- Urban League of Pittsburgh/Duquesne Family Support Center

#### Brand DNA/Market Planning

- Condé Nast Publications (Traveler, Allure, SELF, Vanity Fair)
- Toth Design & Advertising, MA & NY

#### University/Community Partnerships

- Hill District Community/Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh
- National University of Ireland/University of Pittsburgh, Exchange Program
- Syracuse University, Facilitating Community-Wide Dialogue
- University of Pittsburgh International Symposium - Community Development
- University of Pittsburgh UK-US Symposium - Health in Post De-Industrial Cities
- University of Sunderland (England), Center for Social Research and Practice

## DENYS M. CANDY

### Biographical Sketch

**Denys Candy** is a community builder. Denys is noted for co-designing and facilitating, with stakeholders, entrepreneurial programs that respond to complex issues and challenges at the community level. He has provided innovative leadership to schools and school districts, universities, foundations and community based organizations in the United States, the UK, and his native Ireland. Denys designed and implemented the Random Acts of Kindness Community Building Model with community-based organizations and schools in Wilkensburg, PA. He also trained community builders from around the United States in the application of this innovative, comprehensive model.

His work includes facilitating peace making programs with youth across cultural divides in Pittsburgh, PA and Northern Ireland, and community wide dialogue on education and economic development in Syracuse, NY. In addition to the creation of a USA/Ireland exchange of community builders, Denys works with university/ community partnerships in Sunderland UK, Dublin Ireland and Pittsburgh, PA. He has developed a specialty in advising and facilitating high engagement collaboration and community partnerships and has worked extensively with such partnerships in the United States and Ireland.

Over the past four years Denys has worked with people from

the public, private and nonprofit sectors using the arts to generate broader involvement and action in community plans. He has a reputation for creating practical working partnerships in real time to address crises related to substance abuse and youth violence and community building. Denys works effectively in a diverse array of settings.

Denys has been an adjunct faculty member in community organization at the University of Pittsburgh and is a former Executive Director of the Community Technical Assistance Center in Pittsburgh. As a songwriter, Denys is featured on several recordings and has performed original acoustic music with bands in the United States and Ireland.

## JANE E. LaPOINTE

### Biographical Sketch

**Jane LaPointe** is a strategy and organizational consultant and an executive coach. She works closely with business owners, senior executives, and teams of managers in corporate and nonprofit organizations to develop long-term sustainable business practices and to advise on related issues of vision, strategy, structure, organization change, and performance. Her goal is to not simply bring answers, but to provide practical learning opportunities that expand the leadership and managerial effectiveness of people throughout an organization.

Over the past twenty-five years Jane has helped clients assess and respond to changing market and competitive environments,

managed strategy projects, served as an interim CEO/ general manager for companies undergoing transition, rebuilt management teams and organizations, designed and delivered leadership programs. She is particularly effective in guiding executives through cycles of change and transformation. Jane continues to develop tools, processes and practices, bringing new thinking and best practices to clients and their organizations. Her breadth of experience makes her a valued advisor and thinking partner.

Prior to her work as a consultant, Jane was a public school administrator and media center director in northern New England where she rebuilt

and revitalized programs and restored board and community support and funding.

Jane grew up in a small New England mill town. She did undergraduate work in history, philosophy and education and graduate work in library science and in management. She continues to explore ideas to understand and unlock the diverse capacities of individuals to achieve success and sustain joy in their work and lives.