

# Our Whole Lives Program & Sexuality and Our Faith News

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## In the News at KCC

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## Upcoming Parent Overview

Wednesday, June 19<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 PM – 8 PM

Here's your chance to learn about OWL/SOF Program with Pastor Darryl and to meet some of the new trainers. In September, there will be a second parent meeting where all four trainers will be present. We hope that the combination of two meetings will encourage dialogue and on-going communication about this opportunity for your family.



This event occurs concurrently with the last youth group of the year. Check out this incredible justice-oriented program while your 6<sup>th</sup> graders are attending youth group. Pizza and salad will be served at the meeting.

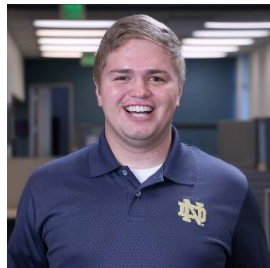
## **Announcing the KCC Trainers for the 2019-2020 OWL/SOF Program**

Volunteering to be a trainer for the OWL/SOF Program is a major commitment. It requires a 3-day weekend training to acquire certification, facilitating program activities throughout the 2019-2020 school year and a comfort level in discussing sexuality with teenagers.

### **Our Fearless KCC Trainers:**



Sara Anderson



Stephen Colón



Barbara Runco



Sharon Young

They represent three generations—Millennials, X-Generation, and Baby Boomers—contribute a varied skill-set, and a steadfast commitment to facilitating the sexuality program for several cycles. For these trainers, facilitating this program is an extension of their shared belief in the values of KCC.

### **Who is eligible to participate?**

- The program is designed for and offered to KCC 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders (the cost is a nominal materials fee).
- Older KCC teens who have not participated in the program are invited to join the group (the cost is a nominal materials fee).
- The program is also offered to the community (the cost increases for families who are not affiliated with KCC).

### **What is the Our Whole Lives & Sexuality and our Faith Program?**

- Sexuality education is one of many goals in the justice advocacy of the United Church of Christ. Along with the Unitarian Universalist Association, UCC created a value-based human sexuality program to augment and support the teaching by parents. The Our Whole Lives (OWL) Program is a comprehensive sexuality education program that is taught alongside a faith-based companion curriculum called Sexuality and Our Faith (SOF). The

foundation for the curriculums is the [Guidelines for Comprehensive Sexuality Education, Kindergarten-12<sup>th</sup> Grade](#) which was published by the Sexuality and Information Education Council of the United States (SIECUS).

- Our Whole Lives, together with Sexuality and Our Faith helps participants make informed and responsible decisions about their relationships, health and behavior in the context of their faith. It equips participants with accurate, age-appropriate information in six subject areas: human development, relationships, personal skills, sexual behavior, sexual health, and society and culture. It provides not only facts about anatomy and human development, but helps participants to clarify their values, build interpersonal skills and understand the social, emotional and spiritual aspects of sexuality.
- For more information, check out [OWL on Wikipedia](#).

### **What to Expect From this Program**

- Our leaders for the 2019-2020 school year are trained during a 3-day workshop with other trainers from the Unitarian Universalist Association and United Church of Christ churches.
- Parent orientation programs that engage parents in the sexuality education of their children.
- KCC uses a well-designed, teacher-friendly leader's guide published by the UCC.
- UCC materials incorporate worship and religious values into the program.
- Up-to-date information and candid answers to all participants' questions.
- Activities to help participants clarify values and improve decision-making skills.
- Effective group-building to create a safe and supportive peer environment.
- Education about sexual abuse, exploitation and harassment.
- Opportunities to critique media messages about gender and sexuality.
- Acceptance of diversity.
- Encouragement to act for justice.

Please contact Barbara Runco, Director of Faith Formation, with your questions and enthusiastic support for this justice-driven UCC program.

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