

PACIE Dialogue Action Teams (DAT)

A Dialogue-to-Change Model based on the work of www.everyday-democracy.org

DATs

- Are organized by a diverse group of people representing the whole community
- Include people who represent the many perspectives that make up Wheaton
- Employ a fair-minded discussion format and easy-to-use materials
- Use trained facilitators who reflect the community's diversity
- Move a community from talk to action

Each DAT

- Is a small, diverse group of 8-12 people
- Meets together for 5 two-hour sessions
- Sets its own ground rules. This helps the group share responsibility for the quality of the discussion.
- Is led by impartial facilitators who help manage the discussion.
- Starts with personal stories, then looks at the problem from many points of view paying particular attention to the impact on their own community. Next, the group explores possible solutions.
- Makes plans for action and change.
- Implements the action plan.
- Teams may apply for PACIE grants that provide modest levels of financial support needed to begin implementation of the proposed action plan.

Overview of a DAT process

Making connections → Exploring an issue → Considering options → Developing Action Plan

Each team member commits to

- Attending all (5-6) dialogue sessions.
- Listening respectfully to the perspectives of others.
- Participating in developing and implementing an action plan related to the focus of your DAT.

How do I get involved?

- Attend an information session.
- Complete and return an Expression of Interest Form -- used only to ensure that teams represent the diversity of our community – available on the PACIE web site or in the DAT Resource Library.
- Drop by the DAT Resource Library in the Chapel Basement, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., M-F.

Sponsored by the President's Action Committee on Inclusive Excellence. For more information, email dat@wheatonma.edu.