

Spirit in Action, Inc.

(Belchertown, MA)

*Circles of Change Transformational
Leadership Network*

Total Award: \$50,000 over 14 months

To support Circles of Change Transformational Leadership Network (Leadership Network) to develop a network of transformational leaders committed to creating sustainable, effective, and spirit-based social change. Building on the Circles of Change curriculum, developed with our support, the Leadership Network program will train volunteer facilitators to lead the Circles, integrate the Circle's method into other movement-building groups and activities, and develop the Circle's network of transformational leaders. The Circles of Change model – recently examined, evaluated, and documented – promotes dialogue, builds community, integrates spirit into social justice work, articulates a collective vision, and develops sustainable movement-building strategies. The Leadership Network will create a cascading training model to develop a sustainable and radiating source of leadership. They will develop a formal outreach program to support and expand the diverse leadership network of Circles of Change participants and facilitators. Once facilitators are recruited, the Leadership Network will provide them with concrete tools and training to build their inner capacity to lead Circles, as well as strengthen leadership, organizing, and communication skills. In turn, new facilitators will emerge from these Circles with training, tools, technical support, and resources and bring the approach to subsequent networks of activists.

Program Contribution Breakdown:

\$50,000 Jewish Life and Values/Contemplative Practice Program: *Goal II, Objective 2*