

## Alternatives to Policing #7 – Health Emergencies



PLEASE NOTE THE LOCATION IS OMNI COMMONS, NOT THE CHURCH

Because policing fails to meet people's needs, and puts people in danger of arrest, imprisonment, and/or even death, we must eliminate connections between policing and healthcare. But how? Someone is bleeding or in emotional distress or appears to be unresponsive right in front of you. What can you do?

Critical Resistance Oakland and The Oakland Power Projects present: “Know Your Options for Health: Emotional Crisis, Acute Injuries, and Overdose” workshop. This combined, interactive workshop aims to strengthen people’s skills to respond to community health needs in ways that minimize police contact. We will practice skills using real-life scenarios, review resources and work together to create the community care we want to see.

### ABOUT THE PRESENTERS

Oakland Power Projects Health Workers are a collective of healers and health workers who aim to build community capacity to resist the everyday violence of policing. Critical Resistance launched the group in 2015, following community research interviews where people repeatedly expressed the desire to disconnect health crises and healing from police response. Facilitators for this session include emergency clinicians, street outreach and crisis response advocates, trauma experts and community organizers. Comrades from Punks With Lunch will join us to conduct training on Narcan use for opiate overdose.

### ABOUT THIS WORKSHOP SERIES

A growing coalition of organizations in the Bay Area is coming together to explore alternatives to calling the police to our campuses and into our neighborhoods. Over the coming year, we will be offering a series of workshops to explore alternatives to calling the police. Some of these workshops will provide deepening analysis and a grounding in alternative ways of thinking about community safety. Others, like this one, will provide practical skills. All of them will lift up a transformative justice framework and emphasize the importance of self care.

The Coalition includes First Congregational Church of Oakland, Kehilla Community Synagogue, Qal'bu Maryam, Jewish Voice for Peace, Skyline Community Church, Oakland Peace Center, Oakland LGBTQ Community Center, SURJ-Bay Area, and the Omni Collective. We are eager to partner with additional organizations so please contact us if you are interested!

**Sunday, November 17, 2-6 pm**

**OMNI Commons**

**4799 Shattuck Ave. (corner of 48<sup>th</sup> & Shattuck)**

**Oakland**

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this one, will provide practical skills. All of them will lift up a transformative justice framework and emphasize the importance of self care. The Coalition includes Skyline UCC, First Congregational Church of Oakland, Kehilla Community Synagogue, Qal'bu Maryam, Jewish Voice for Peace, Oakland Peace Center, Oakland LGBTQ Community Center, SURJ-Bay Area, and the Omni Collective. This is a two-year project (2019-2020), more than a year in the making

**Contact Nancy Taylor 510-325-4957 if you wish to carpool.**

Some things to know about this project:

#### WHAT IT IS NOT:

1. Anti-police.
2. Participation in this project does NOT constitute a commitment to not call the police.

#### WHAT IT IS:

1. A realization/acceptance that when black lives are involved, calling the police can be fatal.
2. An exploration of alternatives that can be more effective than the police, such as groups that are trained in non-violent communications, de-escalation techniques, crisis intervention (in areas such as mental health, drug & alcohol abuse), self defense, conflict resolution, medical training, community disaster preparedness, etc.
3. Internal work on the effects of White Supremacy on police violence, examining safety & security, interracial dynamics in the community, what internal fears make people rely on the police? (Each community would tailor content of inner work to its own needs.)
4. Ways to get to know our neighbors and to help us to know and trust each other via material resources, availability for prayer and conversation, etc.

In Summary: this is an invitation to participate in a program that can build toward the creation of a true Beloved Community that chooses to not collude with empire (in this case, the “prison-industrial complex”) in the name of safety, and that is willing to take the risk(s) necessary to explore an alternative first-responder network that provides interventions, when necessary, for the safety of all individuals and groups that are participating. This is also a next step in examining our own internal mechanisms of White Supremacy/racism/white fragility. ALL are invited to join in this opportunity for growth, and in this righteous (and scary!) adventure.