

## Council Facilitator Bios

*Hanlon, Hank, and Kathy have been offering councils in mid-coast Maine since early in 2020. Initially brought together by their love of sitting together in circle and concern for the climate crisis, their project has since evolved to encompass many aspects of our human experience. They meet for a few hours each week—laughing, crying, reflecting, philosophizing, and visioning together while planning council offerings, to share that same connected space with their community.*

### ***Hanlon Kelley-Dillard***



Hanlon has been circlekeeping since 2013. After years of working with court-involved youth and adults, she now works primarily with communities.

She is passionate about the way that council creates a space for us to face together the challenging realities of our day, while also allowing us to turn our attention inward and support each other in our personal growth. She especially loves reflecting on the stories that shape our lives and our experience of the world around us.

She is also a student of Nonviolent Communication, an amateur basket-weaver, and loves spending time in the woods and on the water.

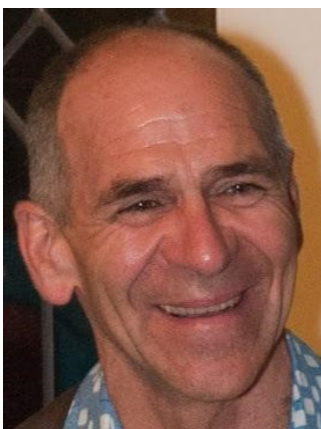
### ***Kathy Gaskin***



Kathy's practice and training in council began while receiving her MA in Transpersonal Ecopsychology from Naropa University (2014-2016). She has been a part of and facilitated many circles and councils within the community since then. She is currently on the board for The Healing Garden, a non-profit educational organization dedicated to community-centered, heart-focused holistic healing.

Council practice opened in Kathy a dedication to holding space for people to acknowledge and embrace their external differences and internal struggles, and ultimately develop respect and compassion for how all life moves through the world.

### ***Hank Reisner***



Living and thriving on the ancestral lands of the Wabanaki peoples in the beautiful woodlands of mid-coast Maine with beloved partner, and 2 cats. Re-learning to love the questions that continue calling me deeper into this life. Understanding that exploring our stories, our patterns, and our deepest longings with compassion, can best be done in community, in we-spaces. The ancient, and now, renewed, Council/Circle practices are such places. Having practiced and guided in a number of communities of practice for many years, the beautiful transformative potential of Council continues to surprise, delight and inspire me.

May we slow down, listen, witness, unlearn, deepen, serve.

## Testimonials from past Council participants:

“I think as a trio you shine brightly. I'm loving the tripod effect! I like you each as individual facilitators, but I LOVE you as a trio. I feel that Hank offers wonderful space and support (and poems!) for settling, going deeper, and integration. I appreciate his precise and gentle keeping of time. Hanlon offers clarity and groundedness, with a side of humor, and gentle attention to detail. Kathy offers a sense of welcome and empathy, as though all is held in a warm soft sea. The total effect is one of balance and harmony.”

–Chelsea C.

“One of the most powerful groups I've ever been in for facilitating change in me that ripples out into the rest of my life.”

–Katia A.

“Acknowledging and expressing personal and global grief in this culture is not encouraged even among close friends. I so appreciate the way Kathy, Hank and Hanlon work seamlessly and gently to create a safe space to explore old unhelpful patterns and habits around grief. The first series of gatherings gently invited us to recall, honor and offer comfort to our hurtful, disturbing and/or depressing experiences. The second series reinforced the process and deepened respect for the human condition and encouraged greater empathy and compassion for ourselves and for others. I am wholeheartedly recommending these gatherings to my friends.”

–Mariah W.

“The Grief Council series has been an amazing deep dive and soft landing into a subject I have kept at bay, grief. Our team of guides created a safe, welcoming space in which trust grew among us, fostering genuine heart centered participation.”

–Lynne O.

“I was deeply moved and changed by my experience in Hanlon, Hank, and Kathy's Grief Council Series! They elegantly structured a safe, warm, equitable, and welcoming space for us to open our hearts. Their creative questions inspired us to go deep in a way that is unusual in everyday life. Sharing our stories was healing. I saw that we are all connected by our stories. I will continue to participate in their councils as well as try to bring this depth to my relationships.”

–Lake Q.