

Who We Are — Start Where You Live: Weaving Conscious Community

An innovative and unique grassroots social media platform, *Start Where You Live* was launched in 2010 to address the political, religious, social, and economic divisions and fragmentation in today’s society beginning with each person, each street, and each community. People return to the basics of their humanity by breaking down divisive barriers and connecting heart-to-heart with one another and with the positive aspects of community. This is the fulcrum of Conscious Community.

Our Vision

The essence of Conscious Community is spiritual, as well as cultural transformation, embodied first in the way people live and then radiating outwardly into families, social and work life, and focused in each local geographic region eventually leading to what Mahatma Gandhi called a “Commonwealth of Village Republics” worldwide.

The wisdom teachers of humanity including Jesus, Mahatma Gandhi, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Dr. A.T. Ariyaratne, and others shared a common vision of a spiritually-based civilization. They taught universal spiritual principles and guidelines for living as individuals and then demonstrated how these principles bring communities together. Their teachings broke down the illusionary barriers of culture, politics, religion, wealth, gender, and race. *Start Where You Live* is an integral part of the next step in humanity’s evolution.



Strategy — Change the World by Starting with Yourself

Start Where You Live: Weaving Conscious Community’s intention is to overcome all separation. It is based on 35 universal spiritual principles. Love, Integrity, Courage, Service, and Respect are the primary Virtues upon which the principles are grouped under for focusing one’s behavior and actions. These principles are the foundational heart of social change efforts.



We “change the world” through the concept of “Weaving,” a process of overcoming division first within ourselves by *weaving* all of our separate parts into a harmonious whole, which comes from higher awareness. We then *weave* our families together, *weave* in our neighborhoods, and *weave* our communities together—through the 35 universal spiritual principles—connecting all existing positive efforts to build sustainable communities in each geographic region.

The key to Weaving Conscious Community is what we call the Weaver Group meeting process. When people come together to share heart-to-heart, a heart-based “resonance field” is generated. Conscious Community is the natural outgrowth of this “resonance field,” which is a very real and felt experience. Essentially, the meeting process is a “container” designed to enhance spiritual growth and at the same time act as a catalyst to connect an existing community.

This process creates groups of people connected by an informal, extended spiritual/social network and does not create a “separate” formal organization. In this way, Weaver Groups do not compete with existing groups but provide a nurturing support system to enhance the total community.

Weaver Groups propagate simply, organically, and naturally. Additional Weaver Groups form as the initial Group of no more than 12 members has potential members expressing interest in joining. Weaver Groups within cities will continue to grow in this way by building participation in the on-line global *Start Where You Live* network (www.startwhereyoulive.com). As new people hear about Weaver Groups, the on-line forum will facilitate a rapid move into face-to-face interactions. The combination of on-line forum and local face-to-face groups fosters a critical mass of consciousness.

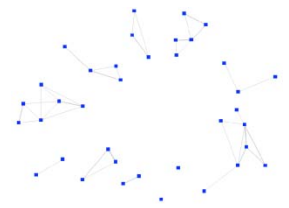
Building a Worldwide Network — From Social Media to Real World Community

The *Start Where You Live* social media platform is down to earth, offering a host of on-line tools and practical ideas from which to “weave” real-world, face-to-face Conscious Community, beginning with weaving oneself, then neighborhood, and then community. The initiative offers training that allows average citizens to develop leadership skills, and to organize and grow together in collaboration creating a “ripple effect” connecting the forces of good already at work within each community.

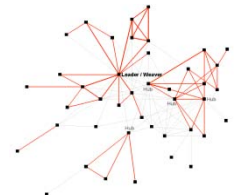
As Weaver Groups develop, they partner and support like-hearted local/global networks in multiple sectors or building blocks: spirituality; local economy, food, and energy; neighbors helping neighbors; health, wellness, and healing; peace; arts and culture, and others. They are seeking to collaborate with similar organizations and movements such as: Community Weaving, Transition Towns, Re-Localization Networks, Business Association for Local Living Economies, Association for Global New Thought, Alliance for a New Humanity, Global Coherence Initiative, Time Banking, World Café, and others. In this manner, linkages are created starting within each person, to street, neighborhood and community, and then linking communities through social media from community to regional to country to worldwide.

Start Where You Live’s ultimate goal is to nurture a worldwide network of grassroots community movements through its on-line presence resulting in the realization of its long-term vision: a new, spiritually-based global civilization.

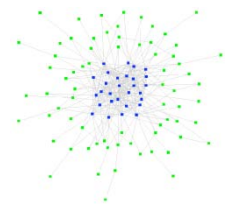
For further information, please contact Richard Flyer, Coordinator, for *Start Where You Live: Weaving Conscious Community*—www.startwhereyoulive.com—at (775) 851-2993 in Reno, Nevada, USA.



Scattered Clusters and Unconnected Individuals and Groups



Multi-Hub Small World Network



Core Periphery Network or Smart Networks