

SAMPLE PRESS RELEASE FOR NEW CAFES: Adapt for your café. Consider submitting a photograph—be sure everyone in the photo has given their permission to be published.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For more information, contact:

<host name> (000) 000-0000

<co-host name> (000) 000-0000

New Conversation Café Starting in <City name>

Starting on <month/day>, the <CAFÉ NAME> in <CITY> is the site of the latest opening in a nationwide movement of Conversation Cafés. This open group welcomes everyone to join in on respectful and friendly discussion of topics that matter. They meet <START TIME> on <DAY OF WEEK, FREQUENCY, e.g. “1st & 3rd Mondays”> in <CITY> at <CAFÉ NAME>, <CAFÉ ADDRESS>. For more information, please contact <HOST NAME/PHONE> or <COHOST NAME/PHONE>.

Spreading nationwide and into Canada, **Conversation Cafés** are drop-in community conversations in public places such as cafés, bookstores, or community centers. These conversations are organized and hosted by at least one person who welcomes participants and introduces the Conversation Café process and agreements (the “ground rules”). This process and the agreements create the minimal structure that allows even strangers to quickly get into deep, compassionate discussion. Conversation Cafés attract diverse people wanting to make meaning of the times we’re living through.

<SOMETHING HERE about how you plan to settle on topics, e.g. “Some examples of topics being discussed at the XYZ Cafe in the coming weeks are...” or, “The group meeting at the XYZ Cafe discusses a topic of mutual interest emerging from the people that attend.”>

“<OPTIONAL QUOTE from the host, maybe about how he/she found out about or first experienced Conversation Cafés and how he/she was personally affected. Or, something about community values and wanting to provide a place to go to connect with other people on real issues that affect our lives.>” said <HOST NAME HERE>.

Individual Conversation Cafés benefit from an expanding network of nearby Conversation Cafés. More people learn how comfortable and rewarding they are to attend, and more Cafés provide convenient choices to participants with tight schedules. Hosts of Conversation Cafés in the same city can collaborate on posting fliers and other ways of promoting their gatherings, and can even offer substitute hosting for each other. To learn more about starting and hosting Conversation Cafés, go to www.conversationcafe.org.

Conversation Cafés were cofounded and organized by Vicki Robin, bestselling author of “Your Money or Your Life”, in the summer of 2001 in Seattle. All hosts are volunteers. Conversation Cafés are always free of charge.