

## ESF 2016, Hyderabad: Working Group Essential Principles and Core Values

### Introduction

1 August 2016

Our task these two weeks is to identify and define the Essential Principles and Core Values of Montessori that are necessary for EsF work.

1. What are the principles we must bear in mind when engaging in this “out of the box” work, and on which our work must be based in order to be successful?
2. What are the core values we must cultivate within ourselves and bring to all aspects of this work?

Principle/Value

Explanation

Readings, resources, and guidelines

We will end up with a booklet focusing on the Essential Principles and Core Values of Montessori necessary for EsF work that can serve as a resource and guide for people who are interested in this.

#### **Day One:**

Monday 5:00 pm

Gather the group, introduce ourselves and explain why we are here.

Identify all current work and experience among the group that falls within the mission of EsF:

“To work with individuals, families, communities, organizations and governments to further the rights, education, and welfare of children worldwide.”

EsF is committed to transcending borders in order to serve children through innovative educational initiatives using Montessori principles and practices.

“When using the term *Educateurs sans Frontières*, we refer to borders that transcend the obvious ones to do with nation states. The truly important ones are the psychological and spiritual *Frontières* – the ideological, religious, racial, social and economic, cultural and linguistic boundaries which artificially divide a humanity as yet largely unaware of its intrinsic unity and its interconnectedness with the earth that brought it forth.

“Dr. Montessori’s work can be applied in a wide variety of ways that can benefit the cause of the child beyond the school and the home. Her own term for the pedagogy she created was ‘Education as an Aid to Life,’ and education as an aid to life is applicable at any time, in any place, within all social strata, through public or private agencies, in settings rural, urban and remote.”

“When Montessori principles are applied in the wider context of society, their possibilities are vast and all-encompassing. They can be of incalculable help to parents, social workers, childcare workers, family counselors, in short, to any person involved with the developing human being.” RM 1999