## 27<sup>th</sup> Annual PLAR Conference PLAR – Unleash the Potential!

## PLAR: Recognizing and Activating the Hidden Potential of Our Youth

Presenter: Shawn Doyle, PLAR Practitioner

An alarming percentage of our youth in present day society are reviled and dismissed as lost - within families, formal education, and communities.

In fact, many of today's youth hold keys to the doorways that can lead to our collective success.

Prior Learning Assessment & Recognition (PLAR) and Portfolio Development offer a positive and proven successful life changing pathway through which youth discover their value as human beings, their undeniable core strengths, and their potential to create value for themselves, their families and communities. These often unrecognized strengths have been developed through their life time experiences of hardship and often dire life challenges. As a society we often do not recognize the courage or the skills many of our youth have had to employ "to simply be alive". These skills and experience are transferrable, and can form a strong foundation upon which conscientious, productive social responsibility can be developed and supported.

As <u>we</u> open our hearts and minds to the value of our youth through the PLA process, we are able to look beyond the anger, frustration, often violent behavior, pink hair, tattoos, and nose piercings, and we discover intelligent, creative and compassionate youth who live every day with courage, an outstanding sense of social justice, and a yearning to be positive contributing members of society.

This interactive PLAR workshop is intended to provide fundamental elements that lead to successfully enhancing personal, academic and employment opportunities for youth. If you care about the future of our youth, and want to learn how to open proven pathways that lead to their success, you are invited to participate in this workshop.