



Niyonu D. Spann is a member of Chester Monthly Meeting in Chester, PA. She first became excited about Quakerism as she traveled (along with former husband, Dwight Wilson) amongst Friends throughout the country back in the late 70's. In 1979 Niyonu joined the staff of Friends Council on Education and later, as a new and young adult Quaker served for eight years at Oakwood Friends Boarding School in Poughkeepsie, NY. Niyonu finished her years of classroom teaching at Friends Select School, in Philadelphia.

After completing graduate studies in Organization Development, Niyonu founded TrV Consulting, specializing in whole-systems transformation. That same year, she founded and began directing the musical group, Tribe 1 who has performed songs of peace, justice and transformation in the US and in Nicaragua. This year they are celebrating their 20th anniversary. The late 90's offered a deeply Spirit-led and powerfully creative period of Niyonu's life. While TrV and Tribe 1 were being established, she was led to design and facilitate the first transformative diversity workshop called, *Beyond Diversity 101 (BD101)*. *BD101* is a five-day intensive workshop that has been attended by over 150 Friends (and many others) from around the country.

In 2007, Niyonu completed four years as Dean of Pendle Hill (a Quaker Center for Study and Contemplation). Upon leaving Pendle Hill, she felt a strong call to move to the city of Chester, PA (rated "the poorest [district] in Pennsylvania"). While living in Chester, Niyonu developed a non-profit called *4 Circles Beyond, Inc.* Under *4 Circles* she is building community collaborations for providing programming that fosters peaceful living through the arts and youth leadership. 2014 will be the fifth year of the *Chester Peace Leadership and the Arts Summer Camp*.

Niyonu is currently directing *CEIO - Co-Creating Effective & Inclusive Organizations*, which she co-founded with Bill Graustein in New Haven, CT. This has been a tremendous opportunity to bring together much of what she has learned through her years of work in organization and community transformation as well as in spiritual activism toward social and economic justice.