

Cindy Squillace

Selected Audio Transcript

Interview Conducted November 5, 2020

A big part of my background has been as a grief counselor. And one of the things that happened with all the different groups that I was a part of is that it was very evident that all of these groups and all of our ancestors suffered losses, and had grief, and had pride in those who came before them. So trying to get underneath any of the political stuff, and just get to that place where people see each other as human beings who have had pain, and who have had joy, and who love, you know, their families and their communities. So finding a way to not avoid the truth, because I think the truth needs to be spoken, and not sugar-coated, but to somehow connect that with—that all of us feel these things, but just some of us have come out of it in powerful positions, and being able to talk about racism, and why some groups have not been able to get past the power structures.

Biography

I am a woman of Southern Italian heritage having lived for 45 years in the City of Syracuse. My husband is also Italian and we raised our family here. I am a licensed social worker, a bereavement/trauma counselor, community organizer, and have worked with many populations of people in Syracuse and Onondaga County.