



The mission of the State Restorative Justice Council is to advance restorative justice principles and promote restorative justice throughout Colorado by providing gateways to information, networking and support.

Please visit www.rjcolorado.org for more information and a repository of programs and practitioners

What is Restorative Justice (RJ)?

- **An opportunity for people harmed by crime or conflict to have a voice** in telling those responsible for the harm about the impacts and asking for what they need
- **An opportunity for those responsible for the harm to take responsibility** for their actions and repair the harm they have done to the extent possible while learning and building empathy
- An opportunity to include community members in a structured, supportive and engaging manner that increases a sense of community safety and inclusion
- An opportunity for a system response that is inclusive, satisfying to the participants and reduces repeat behaviors
- An option for addressing harm, building relationship, creating a more civil society

How does RJ Work?

- All parties participate voluntarily (High impact cases required victim initiation)
- Trained facilitators prepare all parties to participate in a restorative process
- The parties meet face to face in a facilitated process that gives each participants time to speak and listen
- The participants may reach agreements about how the responsible parties will repair harm (often resulting in a written agreement)
- A timeframe is set by which the agreement will be complete
- The person responsible for completing the agreement is held accountable to doing so or is referred back to traditional systems

Does RJ Work?

- Over 90% of agreements are completed
- Of those that complete, less than 10% reoffend
- Over 97% of people harmed express satisfaction and a sense of justice afterward
- Over 98% of the people responsible for harm are satisfied and feel a sense of justice afterward

Who do I contact to have an RJ process for an incident?

Visit www.rjcolorado.org and click on the RJ Directory to find a program or practitioner near you.

Or contact Deb Witzel, CO RJ Coordinator at deb.witzel@judicial.state.so.us or 720-625-5964