What is Restorative Justice?

Restorative justice maintains that those who have a stake in a specific offense must be involved to the extent possible. When guided by evidence-based practices, they can **collectively identify and address harms, needs, and obligations** in order to heal and put things as right as possible.

When a crime has been committed…

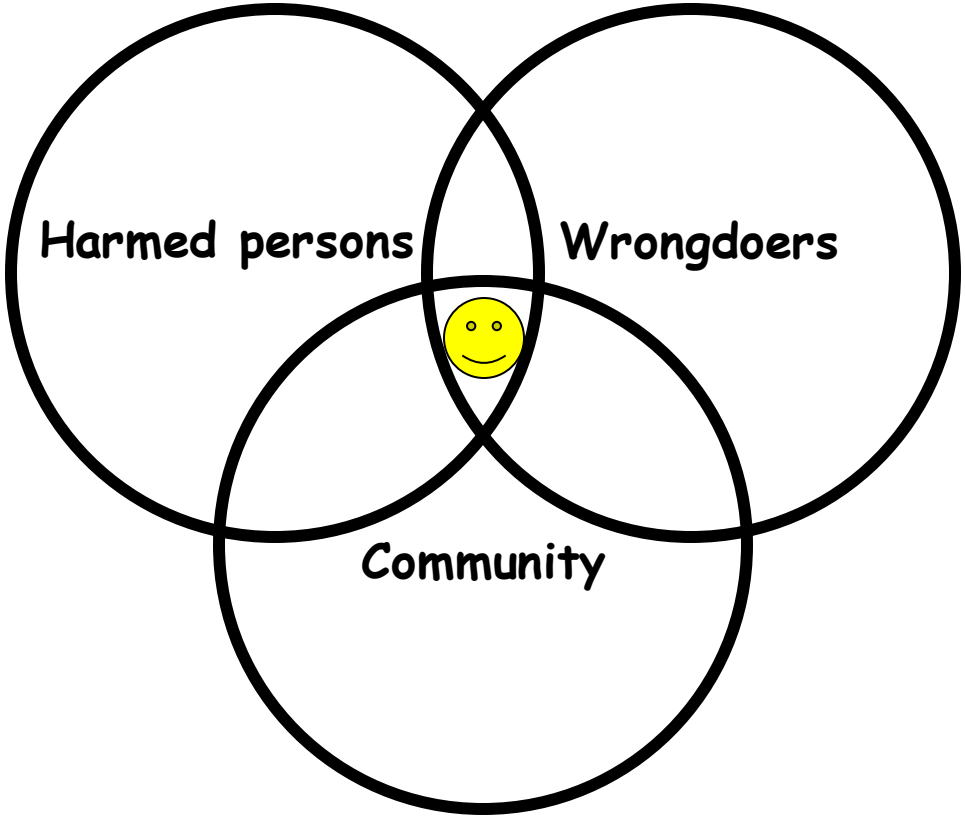
Instead of asking these questions:
What law was broken?
Who broke the law?
How are we going to punish them?

We should be asking these questions:
Who was harmed?
How will the harm be repaired?
Who is responsible for repairing the harm?

Restorative Justice Stakeholders

Crime affects victims, but also communities as well as offenders, themselves. The hope is that victims' needs are met and that harm done can be made right so that victims can thrive, communities can become peaceful places, and that offenders, too, can become successful members of society. When common ground is found, people find solutions together through mutual consensus building decision making.

Restorative Practices find Common Ground



when addressing Harms

The "Balanced Approach"

is an approach that takes restorative justice one step further and considers the concepts of ***accountability***, ***competency development*** and ***community safety*** with regard to crimes by **youth.**



What do these terms mean?

Accountability:

When an young person commits a crime, they create an obligation to victims and their community.

Competency Development:

Young people who enter the juvenile justice system should leave more capable than when they entered.

Community Safety:

Juvenile Justice has a responsibility to protect the public from juveniles in the system.

The 5 R's of Restorative Practices

Relationships – developing caring connections and finding common ground

Respect – listening to others' opinions and valuing them

Responsibility – being accountable for actions taken

Restoration – repairing harm that has been caused

Reintegration – ensuring all remain included and involved

Four Important Elements

That make it more likely that programs will reflect restorative principles and succeed in

Encounter: Creates opportunity for all to meet to discuss the crime and its harm to others.

Amends: Expects offenders to take steps to repair the harm done to others.

Reintegration: Seeks to restore victims and offenders to whole, contributing members of society.

Inclusion: Provides opportunities for all to collaborate in creating a resolution.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Illinois Balanced & Restorative Justice Project

Executive Director: Sara Balgoyen-

217-379-4939, sarab@ibarj.org

Director of Training: Kathryn Rayford-

708-612-4945, khrayford@sbcglobal.net

Website: www.ibarj.org