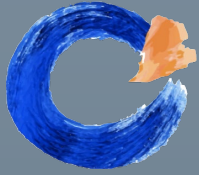




# Welcome !













Restorative Justice Project Maine





# Restorative Justice Project of Maine

- The Restorative Justice Project of Maine was founded in 2005 to offer responses to crime and wrongdoing that are grounded in restorative principles and promote fundamental change in the justice system, schools, and communities.



*Our mission is to promote a justice that is community-based, repairs harm, and creates safety and wellbeing for all.*

A colorful illustration of a community scene. It features several houses in blue, red, yellow, and light blue. There are green trees and a white picket fence. In the foreground, there are white silhouettes of people: a person with a cane, a person in a wheelchair, a family with a stroller, and other individuals walking. The background is a light blue gradient.

## Theory of Change & Central Organizing Idea

**Build and sustain an RJ  
infrastructure that places  
restorative minded  
community members at the center  
promoting safety, wellbeing and  
repairing harm.**

*“Only interventions which are grounded in community and directed by the community are likely to strengthen the community.”* - Kay Pranis

*“Governments do not control crime, communities do; there is little the justice system can do to keep someone from engaging in crime... only communities can do that.”* - Leonard A. Sipes A. Sipes, Jr.



# Restorative Justice

## A Different set of Questions

| Criminal Justice  | Restorative Justice   |
|---|---|
| <p>What laws have been broken?<br/>Who did it?<br/>What do they deserve?</p>                  | <p>Who has been hurt?<br/>What are their needs?<br/>Whose obligations are these?</p>  |
| <p>Central focus: Offenders have wronged and it is the State's role to impose punishment.</p> | <p>Central focus: Determining victims' needs and offenders' responsibility to repair the harm. This process relies on community support to make possible.</p> |



## RJP Maine's Vision & Legacy

**All crimes in Maine are met with a restorative response.**

**All schools and education institutions in Maine use restorative practices.**

**Restorative practices are well understood, used effectively and with fidelity to core values and standards.**

**Restorative solutions are widely available: Anyone, anywhere, anytime can seek a restorative solution.**

# Referral Sources:

- Community members, people who were harmed, people who caused harm
- Courts / Office of the District Attorney
- Law Enforcement
- Juvenile Community Corrections Officers
- Probation officers
- Defense Attorneys
- Social workers or therapists

# Referrals

|  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <b>ELIGIBLE</b>  | <b>Misdemeanors,<br/>Burglaries, &amp;<br/>Neighbor disputes</b>                | <b>EXAMPLES:</b><br><br>Criminal Mischief<br>Assault<br>Theft/shoplifting                           |
| <b>ELIGIBLE:<br/>ON A CASE<br/>BY CASE<br/>BASIS</b>   | <b>Felonies, Civil<br/>Offenses, DUI, &amp;<br/><br/>Harassment/Terrorizing</b> | <b>EXAMPLES:</b><br><br>Arson<br>Furnishing of Scheduled<br>Drugs<br>Vehicular manslaughter         |
| <b>NOT<br/>ACCEPTING</b><br><br><u>Keeping a log of<br/>requests for future<br/>engagement</u> | <b>Violent Offenses &amp;<br/>Sex Offenses</b>                                  | <b>EXAMPLES:</b><br><br>Domestic Violence<br>Gross Sexual Assault<br>Elevated Aggravated<br>Assault |



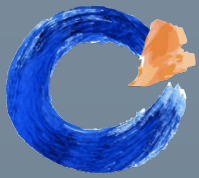


## Referral Screening Criteria

1. Person who caused harm (“offender”) must be willing to take responsibility for the harm in restorative setting
1. Person who caused harm must agree to participate in the process, both in the restorative process and following through on the reparative measures outlined in the Repair Agreement.
1. *Not required, but generally desirable:* person who was harmed (“victim”) is interested in participating.







# Restorative Justice Project - Maine

*Serving Waldo, Knox, Lincoln, & Sagadahoc Counties*

*Our mission is to promote a justice that is community-based, repairs harm, and creates safety and wellbeing for all.*

For fiscal year '20/'21 . . .

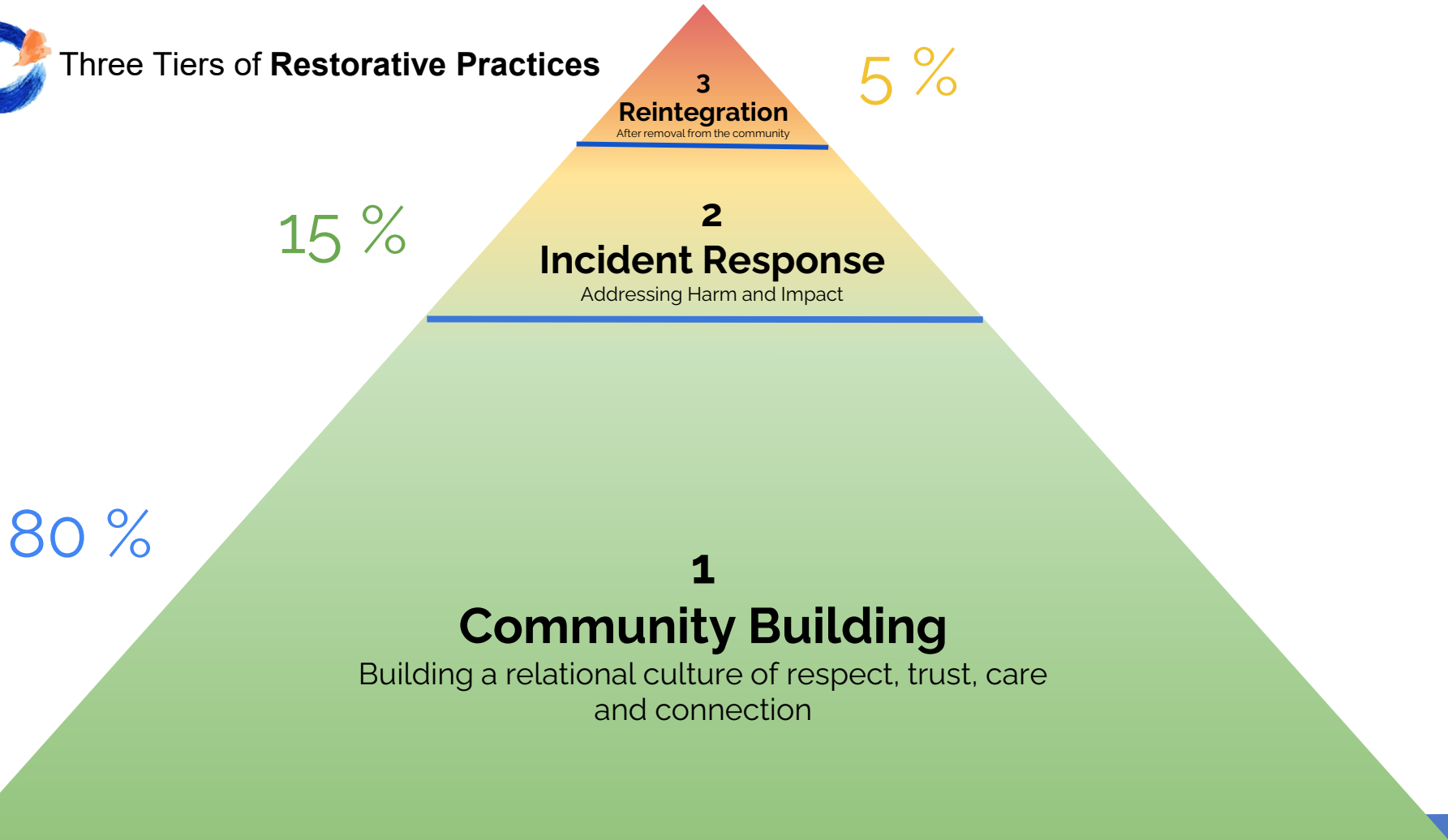
- 112 Circles
- 53 youth served
- 32 adults referred
- 32 harm repair volunteers
- 90% of people who have been harmed indicated that the restorative justice process met their needs

Our key assumptions . . .

- All human beings have the capacity to learn, grow and change
- All families have strengths
- We don't know anyone's upper limits
- All of our participants are creative, human beings doing the best they can at the moment



## Three Tiers of Restorative Practices



3

**Reintegration**

After removal from the community

5 %

2

**Incident Response**

Addressing Harm and Impact

15 %

1

**Community Building**

Building a relational culture of respect, trust, care and connection

80 %

# ADDRESSING THE ROOT CAUSES OF CRIME



**Safety is more than the absence of crime,  
it's the ability to access the supports and resources needed to thrive.**



# Trail Map to Becoming an RJP Volunteer

Dive in!

Express interest on our website or by contacting a staff member

Volunteer as a community participant or surrogate in a harm repair process

Attend RJP orientation

Attend RJP Foundations training

Submit a volunteer application

Meet w/ a staff person & choose a program to explore:



Attend Harm Repair Orientation



Attend Harm Repair facilitator training

Await a case



Await formation of a Table



Attend Open Table Orientation & training

Attend Community Justice orientation

Meet w/ a staff person for orientation



# Get involved! [www.rjpmidcoast.org](http://www.rjpmidcoast.org)

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- **Read our newsletter**
  - Sign up on our website to receive our newsletter
- **Engage on Social Media**
  - Follow us on Facebook & Instagram (rjpmaine)
- **Donate !**
- **Attend a monthly volunteer community-building meeting**
- **Participate in community building circles when they happen**
- **Support broader justice & race equity work in Maine**

