



Working with Youth and Victims to Rebuild, Repair, and Restore Community Connections

The Center for Restorative Youth Justice's programs work one-on-one with youth and victims of juvenile crime to 'reweave the fabric' of relationships (community, family, peers) in ways that promote true accountability, inspire connection, and increase community safety.

CRYJ believes in justice and crime prevention which focuses on the people and communities harmed by crime as opposed to focusing on what laws were broken or what punishments have been imposed.

Conversations with victims and community members allow youth to focus on what steps are needed to repair that harm.

CRYJ's programs foster dialogue between offenders and victims, create opportunities for true accountability, and reduce the likelihood that a youth will reoffend.

- ➔ Justice resources are focused on those who have been harmed (vs. what law was broken)
- ➔ Conversations with victims and community members allow youth to focus on what steps are needed to repair that harm (vs. inflicting punishment) allowing victims and youth to move forward
- ➔ We believe that youth are valuable assets who represent the future of our community

About Us:

CRYJ's youth participants dedicate more than 2,500 hours to service projects in the Flathead Valley.

Learn more about our powerful programming www.restorativeyouthjustice.org



What We Do

- **Ensure Victim Involvement** - Our programming offers victims an important voice and a chance to express their true impacts. All victims of juvenile crime are presented with an opportunity to be part of the justice process through direct participation in the Victim Offender Conference or to have their impacts reflected in other accountability processes.
- **Empowerment and Respect** - CRYJ provides an individualized approach to youth and families - focusing on accountability, goal setting, positive development and empowerment. This approach helps to support youth as they gain the ability, and recognize their own authority to make decisions and implement changes in their lives and the lives of others.
- **Create Community Connections and Safety** - Our programs emphasize community service as an opportunity to give back - striving to increase community safety and connection. We work with more than 30 community partners, agencies, and nonprofits around the valley to provide meaningful community service options for youth.
- **Parent and Family Engagement** - All CRYJ programs aim to actively engage parents and families in reflection and discussion surrounding a youth's offense. Our accountability programs encourage parents to play a role in the framing of the accountability process and to discuss impacts as a way of helping that youth move forward in rebuilding trust within their families and the community.

Who We Work With

The large majority of youth who come through CRYJ's restorative programming are referred through juvenile probation. Youth participants include Flathead County youth from a wide range of backgrounds, and with a wide range of offenses. CRYJ works largely with first time offenders - providing important accountability and reflection opportunities that result in reduced delinquency.

CRYJ's restorative programming also create opportunities for repeat offenders, or more serious offenders, to participate in conversations with community members, victims, and staff to understand the true impacts of their decisions and to create meaningful ways for youth to repair harm and move forward.

Ways to Give!

- ➔ Donate securely through CRYJ's website
- ➔ Give \$10 a month auto-payment
- ➔ Give a one-time donation through check
- ➔ Contact our office to learn more about volunteering or in-kind donations!

Agency Successes

- The Victim Impact Program is the only program in the state that directly involves victims of juvenile crime
- CRYJ works with approximately 260 youth a year who are either currently involved, or are being actively directed, from the traditional juvenile justice system
- 85% of youth referred to CRYJ complete all program requirements
- CRYJ youth participants dedicate approximately 2,500 hours of community service to the Flathead community every year through participate in Youth Connections service projects

CRYJ's Restorative Accountability Programs:

Victim Impact Program

Victim Offender Conferencing

Community Accountability Board

Drug and Alcohol Accountability Program

Theft Impact Circle

Youth Connections

224 1st Ave East
Kalispell, MT 59901