



Community & School-Based Diversion Programs:

Putting Restorative Justice into Practice



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RESTORATIVE JUSTICE



- Is a framework and process.
- Facilitates accountability, acknowledgement, repair, and change that decreases the chance harm will happen again.
- Is survivor centered and includes:
 - The person(s) harmed
 - The person(s) who caused harm
 - The impacted community
 - A safe environment
- RJ processes include:
 - Community Conferencing
 - Restorative Dialogue
 - Peacemaking Circles



WHAT ARE RESTORATIVE PRACTICES?

- Professional, school, personal settings
- Principles and techniques for:
 - Building community
 - Strengthening, restoring relationships
 - Addressing harm or conflict
- Key components include:
 - Community-building circles
 - Restorative impromptu conversations
 - Conferencing
 - Reintegration process
- Collaborative, inclusive and equitable practices



empathy + insight = connection



South County Restorative Justice Youth Diversion Program: Goals

Provide youth and their families with the support/services they need to grow and thrive in our community.

Bring-in and uplift the voice of victims and the community.

Help youth to account for their actions in a restorative manner.

Hold family structure and community accountable for their actions in supporting youth.

Use languages that families understand.

Promote public safety.



Prevention & Intervention

Allows youth who engaged in harmful conduct to come together with those who have been ***impacted*** by that ***conduct to address the harm that occurred.***

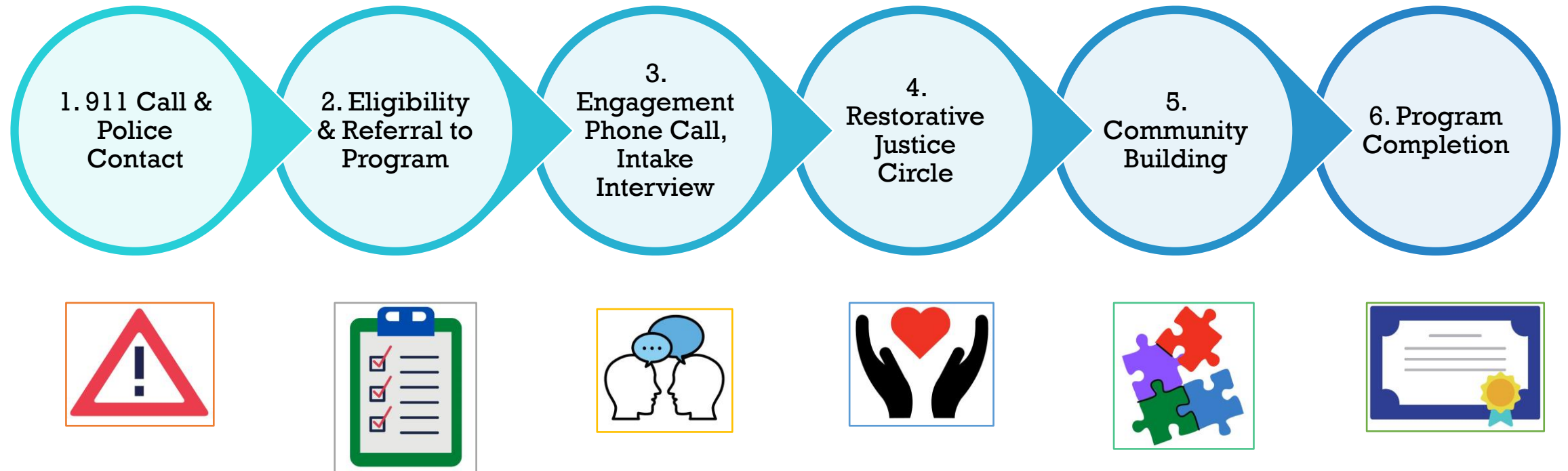
Is an ***alternative to the traditional path*** that occurs after a youth receives a citation.

Successful completion results in the **case being sealed.** (Welf & Inst. 827.95)

Grounded in ***Restorative Justice and trauma-informed principles.***



Diversion Program Framework





**2023
Quick
Numbers**

68 Youth

- **Number of Youth Referrals**

53 Youth (78%)

- **Number of Youth who Completed Program and their Cases were Sealed**

1093.75 Hours

- **Number of Community Service Hours Completed by Youth**



WHERE WE ARE GOING NEXT — UPSTREAM



South County: School-Based Pilot Diversion Program



Part 1: Open Gym (Community Building)

- 2 days a month
- 20 students
- Focus on Tier 2 and 3 students
- CB circles, structured programming
- School and CBO mentors

Part 2: Harm Repair (RJ Process)

- Harmful behavior
- Eligibility consideration
- In-Lieu of or Shorter Suspension
- RJ Circle & Restorative Agreement
- Inclusion in Open Gym
- Supports through CBOs

Part 3: RJ Training for Educators, Youth

- Training for school's educators, staff, and youth
- Periodic refreshers



SAN JOSE: MIDDLE SCHOOL HARM PREVENTION & HARM REPAIR PROGRAM

- DAO with San Jose Youth Empowerment Alliance (YEA) partners are spearheading the creation of a school-based program.
- Reduce and divert harmful behavior and citations from Juvenile Justice System.

Mission Statement:

Our Mission is to build a strong community by preventing harm, reducing its impact, and repairing relationships. We are committed to: Community Building, Harm Prevention, Harm Reduction, Harm Repair. By embracing these principals, our program aims to create a nurturing environment that encourages accountability, personal growth, and lasting commitment to community well-being

Vision Statement:

Our Middle School Harm Reduction and Harm Repair Program envisions a supportive and inclusive community where every student is empowered to grow, learn, and thrive. We aim to create a safe environment that fosters mutual respect, accountability, and personal development through restorative practices.



SAN JOSE: MIDDLE SCHOOL HARM PREVENTION & HARM REPAIR PROGRAM

- Four middle schools from Alum Rock Unified School District and Evergreen School District are participating.

Community Building:

- Safe environment, mentorship

Harm Prevention / Reduction:

- Workshops, pro-social activities, parent involvement

Harm Repair:

- Referral system for harmful behavior, restorative justice approach





SAVE THE DATE



RESTORATIVE JUSTICE GATHERING

LEARN | CONNECT | TRANSFORM | HEAL



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16TH
9:30AM-3:00PM



OLD CITY HALL RESTAURANT
7400 MONTEREY ST. GILROY, CA



#healtogether



FOR ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE EMAIL RIGO JIMENEZ AT
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Looking Ahead

- Late Fall / Early Winter: Roll-out the school-based diversion programs in South County and San Jose
- Continue to refine citation-based diversion
- How can we develop awareness of Restorative Justice in Santa Clara County?
 - RJ Gathering, South County, Nov. 16, 2024





Questions