



RESTORATIVE JUSTICE COLORADO

State RJ Council Mandate: HB 07-1129

Support the development of RJ programs; Provide Education on RJ; Provide RJ technical assistance;
Create a central repository of RJ information (www.rjcolorado.org)

We believe in¹:

- Putting key decisions into the hands of those most affected by crime;
- Making justice more healing and, ideally, more transformative;
- Reducing the likelihood of future offenses.

Restorative Justice is based on a set of old and practical beliefs about crime²:

- Crime is a violation of people and interpersonal relationships;
- Violations create obligations;
- The central obligation is to repair the harm caused by crime.

Three Different Questions:	
Criminal Justice	Restorative Justice
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What laws have been broken?• Who did it?• What do they deserve?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Who has been harmed?• What are their needs?• Whose obligations are these?

5 Principles of RJ:

1. Identify Impact and Resulting Needs
2. Address Responsibility
3. Involve Relevant Stakeholders
4. Use Inclusive, Collaborative Processes
5. **Central Focus:** Repair Harm to the Extent Possible

How do we achieve this?

HB 13-1254

Funding and Evaluating 8 pre-file Juvenile Diversion RJ Programs: 6th JD (LPYS), 8th JD (RJCC), 9th JD (Youth Zone), 11th JD (FCRJ), 12th JD (DA & CPR), 19th JD (DA and YFC), 20th JD (DA), 20th JD (Teens Inc.)

¹ Susan Sharpe *Restorative Justice: A Vision for Healing and Change*

² Howard Zehr *The Little Book of Restorative Justice*

Step 1: Program referral (pre-file class 3, 4, 5, or 6 - felony, misdemeanor, petty or municipal offense. excluding sex offenses and/or domestic violence offenses)

Step 2: Contact with primary parties (victim and family, juvenile and family)

Step 3: Pre-Conference to determine if the offender:

- Does not pose a threat for re-victimization
- Takes responsibility for their actions,
- Expresses the capacity for remorse/empathy and
- Willing to repair the harm they are responsible for

Step 4: Facilitated Conference

- Juvenile relates what happened
- Victim shares impact and harm
- Group comes to a consensus on agreement to repair harm

Step 5: Agreement completed case closed

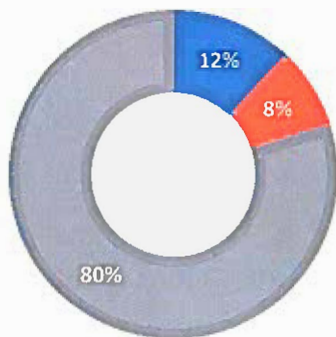
Average duration case = 3 months

DIVERSION JUVENILE PARTICIPATION



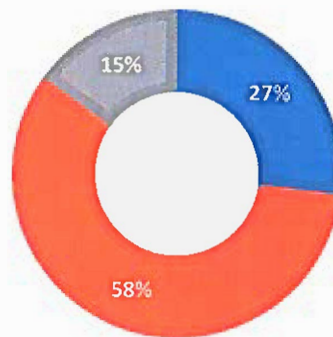
REFERRAL SOURCE

■ Judge ■ School ■ District Attorney



LEVEL OF CHARGE

■ Petty ■ Misdemeanor ■ Felony



55% of youth served were male and 44% served were female

**Just under half of participants were identified as Hispanic/Latino
(48%)**

Over half of participants were identified as White (65%)

**Age of the youth ranged between 8 and 18, and the average age of
offending youth was 14.6 years**

Short-Term Outcomes for Offending Youth:

Statistically significant change from pre-survey to post-survey was observed on five of the six short-term outcome measures: **connection to adults (familial and non-familial), empathy, remorse and accountability**

Official Recidivism Rate

Successful RJ Completions (n=650)	8.2%
Unsuccessful RJ Completions (n=30)	20%
Overall Recidivism Rate (n=680)	8.7%

New filing

**98% of youth reported that they agreed or strongly agreed that they were highly
satisfied**

**97% of victims reported that they agreed or strongly agreed that they were
highly satisfied**

**98% of community members reported that they agreed or strongly agreed that
they were highly satisfied**

May not continue
or move on \neq project

Surcharge fee - Impact on funding because
of age?

Budget 1H

- Conference in June RJ partner w/Reg