

Proposal title- Increasing Community Understanding of Restorative Justice and Potential Participant Participation

Proposal purpose and alignment with the CCP Strategic Plan and draft CCP budget policies

This proposal meets the following goals and objectives as described in the 2019-2022 CCP Strategic Plan.

- Goal 1: Ensure a Safe Environment for All Residents and Visitors by Reducing and Preventing Local Crime and Reducing Recidivism
- Goal 2: Restore Victims and the Community and Hold Offenders Accountable
- Goal 3: Build Offender Competency and Support Community Reintegration

Objectives:

- Expand the use of restorative justice programs.

Data shows that when implemented with integrity and adherence to Restorative Justice values and principles, recidivism rates for offenders are lower than those rates when participating in the traditional court processes. Additionally, when Victims are invited and engaged in a timely manner for participation in an RJ process, their satisfaction with that process is positive. Finally, when offenders are appropriately engaged for an RJ process, their taking responsibility for their action is the first step in their participation.

Restorative Justice can be utilized as a means of diversion, and as a means of rehabilitation. This bodes well for the use of this practice for offenders with previous criminal history to build their understanding of their behavior and therefore build competency in how to behave more positively in the future.

YCRC has ran it's own Restorative Justice programs and has worked with the DAs office on their RJP program (formerly known as Neighborhood Court) for over the last five years. In that time, one of the key learnings has been how difficult the intake process can be because the public has very little understanding or knowledge of what Restorative Justice is and how it works. Therefore, one clear next step in the evolution of Restorative Justice in Yolo County is to provide a comprehensive Community Education effort.

Cost estimate for the program - \$75,000

Timeframe for the program – Annual

Request for Treatment or Innovation – This is a request for Innovation Funding

Any outcomes/metrics anticipated to be tracked as part of the program that enact the CCP Strategic Plan

This proposal is in line with the Goals and Objectives of the CCP 2019-2022 Strategic Plan as listed above. As a demonstration of outcomes, YCRC will track the following:

- YCRC will provide community information sessions and presentations to provide information on what Restorative Justice is, how it works, as well as what participation looks like. These sessions and presentations are designed for all members of the community not just those identified as potential participants in a Restorative Justice process. YCRC will track the number of persons that attend these sessions/presentations over the fund period.
- YCRC will take the lead on producing two videos for distribution. One video will include participant testimonies as well as input from partners on their experience and opinions around the impact and potential of Restorative Justice. A second video will illustrate how the Restorative Justice process works to give folks an opportunity to develop a point of reference on what participation in a Restorative Justice conference looks and feels like.