

Restorative Justice Program Evaluation

Fiscal Year 2005 Report



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Beginning in fiscal year (FY) 2004, the Minnesota Department of Corrections (DOC) has collected survey data that measure the perceptions of offenders, victims, and community members who have participated in state-funded restorative justice (RJ) programs. Participants were administered pre- and post-test surveys immediately before and after the RJ meeting and were later mailed a final follow-up survey. During FY 2004 and 2005, survey data were collected from 1,706 participants on the pre-test, 1,588 participants on the first post-test, and 385 on the follow-up survey. This report presents the results from the survey data, which are summarized below.

- The vast majority of participants felt safe and comfortable sharing their experiences in an RJ setting.
- Nearly all of the participants indicated that their experiences were heard and felt they were treated with respect.
- Approximately 95 percent of the participants felt the agreement was fair to them as well as to all parties.
- More than 90 percent of all participants were satisfied with the RJ process and felt that everyone fulfilled their obligations.
- An overwhelming majority claimed they would recommend the program to others in similar situations.

Victims

- There was a significant decrease in the fear of re-victimization expressed by victims immediately after the restorative process.

Offenders

- The degree of impact offenders placed on their crime increased significantly immediately after the process.
- Offenders' confidence that the criminal justice system is able to treat offenders fairly also increased significantly from the pre-test to the first post-test.

Community Members

- Immediately following the restorative process, there was a significant increase in the amount of responsibility that community member participants felt that the community should take in correcting crime.
- Community member's confidence in the criminal justice system's ability to address the needs of the community increased significantly from the first post-test to the second post-test.

Conclusion

- This report provides the first look at the impact of RJ processes on the perceptions of those who have participated in state-funded RJ programs. Given the DOC's commitment to the ongoing collection of survey data, subsequent reports may further clarify the influence of these processes on RJ participants.

INTRODUCTION

In contrast to the retributive justice model, which considers crime as an offense against the state, RJ views crime as a harm committed against both the victim and the community. Based on the premise that true justice demands that offenders “make right” the harm they have caused, the RJ philosophy insists that offenders accept responsibility for their actions and make restitution for the losses incurred by their victims and the community.

The RJ model promotes restoration by involving all three parties—offenders, victims, and community members—in determining the appropriate type of restitution, which may include monetary compensation, volunteer activities for the community or the victim, counseling programs, or chemical dependency treatment. Fulfilling the obligations of the restitution agreement not only fosters the healing process for the victim and the community but also facilitates the reintegration of the offender into society.

Although the historical roots of RJ can be traced back thousands of years,¹ it has become an increasingly popular approach within criminal justice over the last 30 years. The modern origins of RJ are often located in Kitchener, Ontario, where in 1974 a probation officer proposed that two juveniles charged with vandalism meet and make amends with their victims. This process was later adopted by other jurisdictions in Canada and the United States, as the application of the RJ model grew along with the burgeoning victims’ movement. Indeed, at least 45 states now provide RJ services.

In Minnesota, RJ programs first appeared in the 1980s, although it was not until the early 1990s that they began to be widely implemented across the State (Umbreit, Greenwood, Fercello, & Umbreit 2004). Currently, there are at least 37 programs in Minnesota that provide RJ circle and conferencing services. Moreover, in a 2004 survey, probation offices in 63 of Minnesota’s 87 counties reported offering RJ services such as mediation, conferencing, and circles. Finally, RJ activities such as Victim Offender Dialogues, Citizen Victims and Offenders Restoring Justice groups, and community service projects take place on a regular basis at all ten of Minnesota’s correctional facilities.

Since 1997, the State of Minnesota has provided grants for the establishment, implementation, and maintenance of programs delivering RJ services.² Over the last eight years, there have been five separate appropriations, and the number of grant award recipients has grown from one to

¹ For example, ancient justice documents from Sumeria (2060 BC), Babylonia (1700 BC), and Rome (449 BC) have been found to detail reparative restitution for a variety of offenses (Bazemore, 1998).

² More specifically, a statute was developed in order to identify which programs are eligible to receive funding. M.S. §611A.775: “A community-based organization, in collaboration with a local governmental unit, may establish a restorative justice program. A restorative justice program is a program that provides forums where certain individuals charged with or petitioned for having committed an offense meet with the victim, if appropriate; the victim’s family members or other supportive persons, if appropriate; the offender’s family member or other supportive persons, if appropriate; a law enforcement official or prosecutor when appropriate; other criminal justice system professionals when appropriate; and members of the community in order to: (1) discuss the impact of the offense on the victim and the community; (2) provide support to the victim and methods for reintegrating the victim into community life; (3) assign an appropriate sanction to the offender; and (4) provide methods for reintegrating the offender into community life.”

fourteen.³ The most recent appropriation was awarded to 14 currently-operating RJ programs that are community-based, have a track record of successful results, and have both private and public funding (see Appendix D).

In 2002, the Minnesota DOC developed a series of surveys (see Appendices A-C) in order to evaluate the perceptions of offenders, victims, and community members who have participated in state-funded RJ programs. The following year, the DOC began collecting the evaluation data from RJ grant award recipients. This report presents the findings from these data, which measure the perceptions of participants both before and after their involvement in an RJ program.

The “Literature Review” that follows briefly discusses the main applications of the RJ framework and results from previous evaluations of RJ programs. This report then describes the demographic characteristics of RJ program participants and presents the findings from the survey data. In discussing the survey results, this study focuses not only on participants’ immediate reaction to the process itself, but also on whether the process significantly affected their perceptions on issues, such as fear of re-victimization and confidence in the criminal justice system.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Although implemented in a number of different ways, the RJ philosophy has three main applications: victim-offender mediation (VOM), family group conferencing (FGC), and circle processes. VOMs generally consist of a face-to-face meeting between the victim and offender in which a mediator facilitates a dialogue that usually includes a description of the harm, an arrangement of a reparation agreement, and an apology issued by the offender.

Similar to VOMs, FGCs typically include a meeting between the victim and the offender in which the crime is discussed and decisions are made about an appropriate restitution plan for the offender. With FGCs, however, community and family members (immediate and/or extended) are also present at the meeting and are, therefore, involved in the restorative process. Because FGCs are a more recent development, they have not been used as widely as VOMs.

Circle processes are based primarily on tribal methods of responding to offender’s harmful behavior. In this process, which usually includes the victim, the offender, their support persons, and a circle keeper, a “talking piece” is employed in which only the person holding the symbol is allowed to speak. In doing so, everyone has the ability to not only voice their feelings and concerns but also to be heard by the group. As with VOMs and FGCs, circle processes require the offender’s admission of guilt, the victim’s willingness to participate, and typically include the negotiation of a restitution agreement.

³ The first grant offered to communities was awarded to Olmsted County Community Corrections for the funding term July 1, 1998, through June 30, 1999. The second appropriation was part of the 1998 Omnibus Crime Prevention & Judiciary Finance Bill and allowed for only one program to receive funding—the Central City Neighborhoods Partnership. The third appropriation provided funding to nine new or existing RJ programs through June 30, 2001: Anishinabe OIC; Stevens Square Community Organization; Inner City Youth League/YWCA of St. Paul; Upper Mississippi Mental Health Center; North Hennepin Mediation Program; Wabasha County Restorative Justice; BIHA Women in Action; Tri-County Community Corrections; and Upper Midwest Community Policing Institute. Five of these programs received funding from the fourth appropriation, and an additional eight programs were also included in the grant through June 30, 2003: Lakes Country-Peaceful Solutions; Winona County Restorative Justice Program; Legal Rights Center; Forest Lake Youth Service Bureau; Dispute Resolution Center; Washington County Court Services; PACT 4 Families Collaborative; and Brown County Probation. While eight of these programs are receiving funding from the current appropriation, six more programs were added: Clay County Joint Powers Collaborative; Dodge Fillmore Olmsted Community Corrections; Men as Peacemakers; Mower County Correctional Services; Powderhorn Park Neighborhood Association; and South St. Paul Restorative Justice Council.

Participant Perceptions and Levels of Satisfaction

Much of the existing RJ program evaluation research has focused mainly on the perceptions and satisfaction levels of participants. Studies have consistently shown, for example, that participants report a relatively high level of satisfaction with the RJ process. Indeed, more than 90 percent of offender participants report being satisfied with the process (Fercello & Umbreit, 1998; McGarrell, Olivares, Crawford, & Kroovand, 2000), whereas satisfaction ratings for victims have ranged between 80 and 97 percent (Burns 2001; 2002; Evje & Cushman 2000; Fercello & Umbreit 1999; Umbreit 1994; Umbreit & Bradshaw 2000; Umbreit, Coates, & Vos 2001; 2002; Umbreit & Fercello 1997). Umbreit and Bradshaw (2000) found that three key variables are associated with victim satisfaction: The victim 1) felt good about the mediator, 2) perceived the restitution agreement as fair, and 3) had a strong initial desire to meet the offender.

Consistent with high satisfaction ratings, the vast majority of participants report feeling that the outcome of the process is fair (Evje & Cushman, 2000; Fercello & Umbreit, 1998; McCold & Wachtel, 1998; McGarrell et al., 2000; Umbreit, Coates, & Vos, 2001). Furthermore, Burns (2002) found that most victims would recommend the RJ process to other victims. Finally, a few studies have reported that RJ has reduced victim's fear of crime. In particular, Umbreit (1991; 1994; 1995) reports that the percent of individuals fearful of re-victimization was reduced by half after completing the restorative process.

Recidivism

Although it is beyond the scope of this report to examine whether state-funded RJ programs have significantly reduced recidivism among offender participants, there have been a number of studies that have explored the impact of RJ applications on re-offending. The vast majority of RJ program evaluations that included offender recidivism as an outcome measure have examined VOMs or FGCs. Of the two studies that have looked at the recidivism rates of offenders participating in circle processes, both reported relatively low rates of reoffending (Matthews and Larkin, 1999; Native Counseling Services of Alberta, 2001). Most evaluations of VOMs and FGCs have found a slight to moderate recidivism reduction (Hines, 2000; McGarrell et al., 2000; Nugent & Paddock, 1995; Nugent, Umbreit, Wiinamaki, & Paddock 2001; Wynne & Brown 1998), whereas others have indicated that there was no difference in re-offending between RJ participants and offenders in the control group (McCold & Wachtel, 1998; Roy, 1993; Stone, Helms, & Edgeworth, 1998).

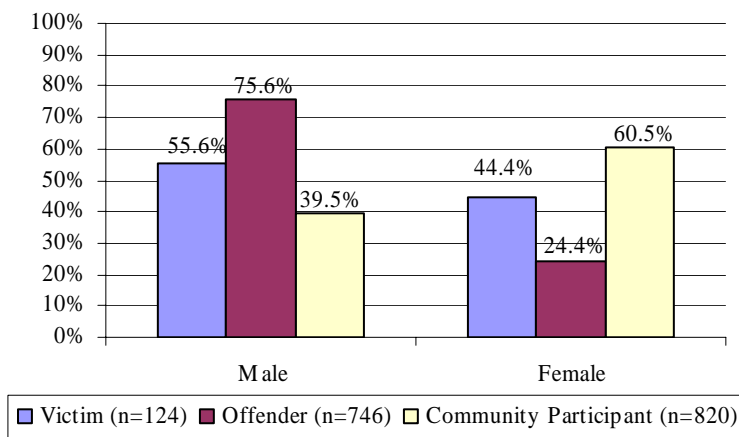
Despite the preponderance of favorable findings regarding offender recidivism, most RJ program evaluations have not used rigorous methodologies. Indeed, as Bonta and colleagues (2002) correctly note, very few studies have used matched comparison groups or the random assignment of experimental and control groups. Nevertheless, the results from several meta-analyses suggest that RJ programs generally reduce the recidivism rates of offender participants anywhere from three to seven percent (Bonta, Wallace-Capretta, Rooney, & McAnoy, 2002; Latimer, Dowden, and Muise, 2001).

RESULTS

In presenting the results from the survey data, this section unfolds in three parts. The first part describes the demographic characteristics of the offender, victim, and community member participants. The second part presents the overall results from the first post-test survey administered to program participants immediately after the process. The third part analyzes differences between the three surveys to determine whether the process had an impact on the attitudes and perceptions of those who participated and completed at least one of the post-test surveys.

Section 1: Demographic Characteristics of Program Participants

Figure 1. Participant's Gender



- ✓ A majority of offenders were male (75%), while a majority of community participants were female (60.5%). Victim participants were nearly evenly split between genders, with slightly more males participating.

- ✓ A majority of all participants were white (92% victims, 72% offenders, and 88% community participants). At 15 percent, African Americans comprised the second-largest category for offenders (see Figure 2).
- ✓ A majority of participants did not claim any Hispanic ethnic background (93% victims, 85% offenders, and 91% community participants).
 - Three percent of victims claimed Other Hispanic background, and an additional three percent claimed Mexican/Mexican American/Chicano ethnicity.
 - Eight percent of offenders claimed Mexican/Mexican American/Chicano ethnicity, and six percent claimed Other Hispanic background.
 - Five percent of community participants claimed Other Hispanic background, and four percent claimed Mexican/ Mexican American/Chicano ethnicity.

Figure 2. Participant's Race

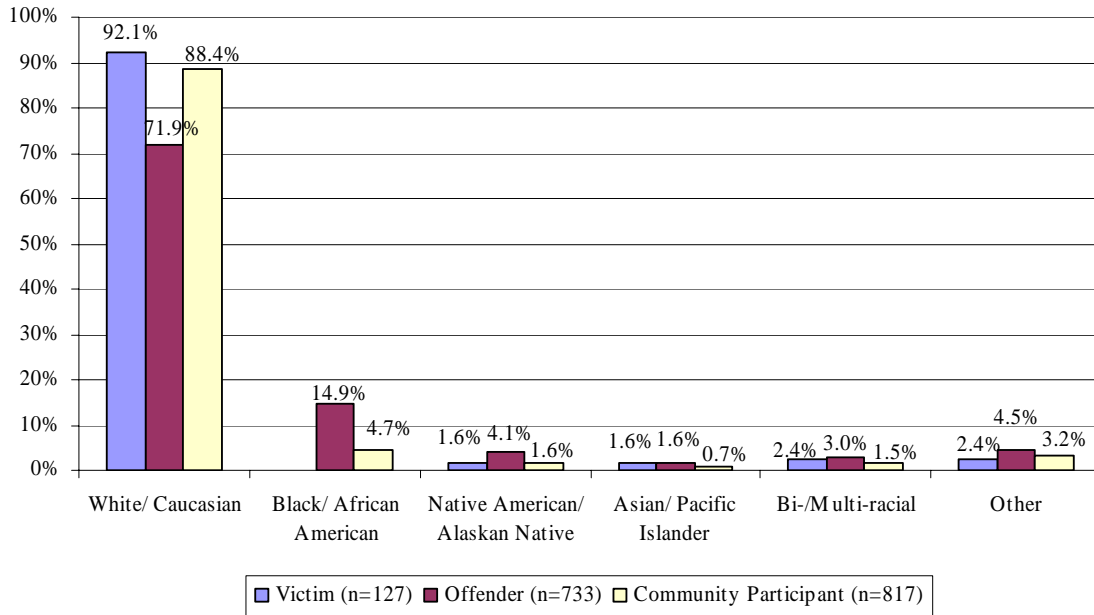
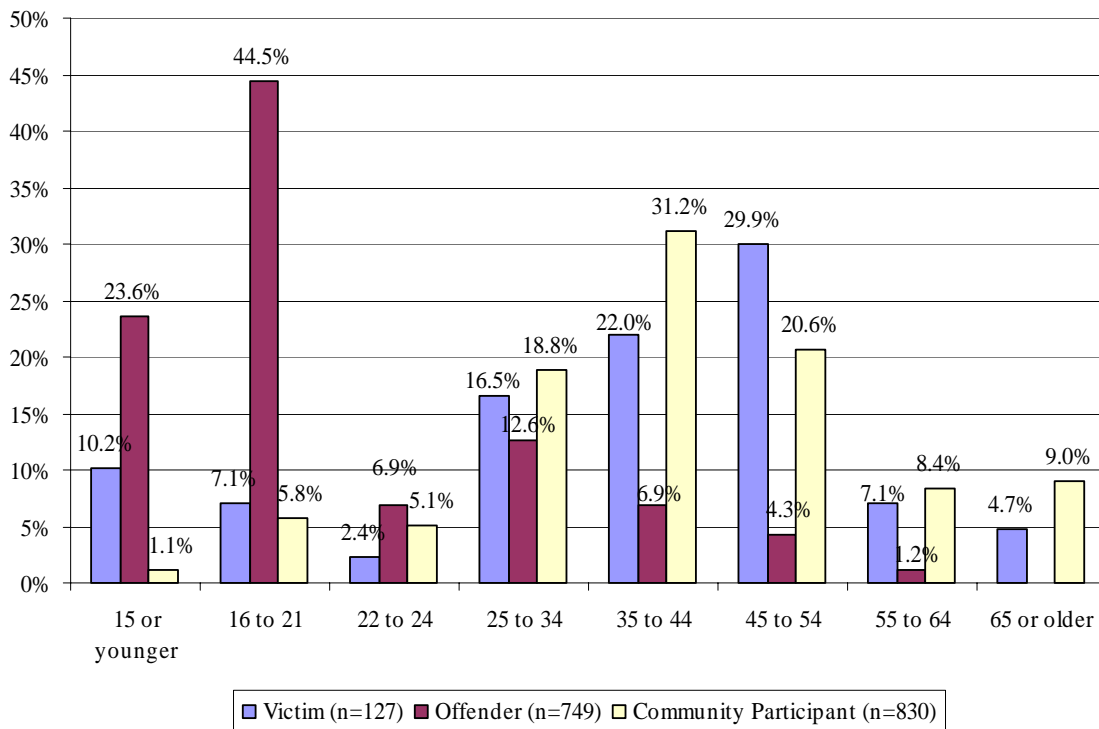
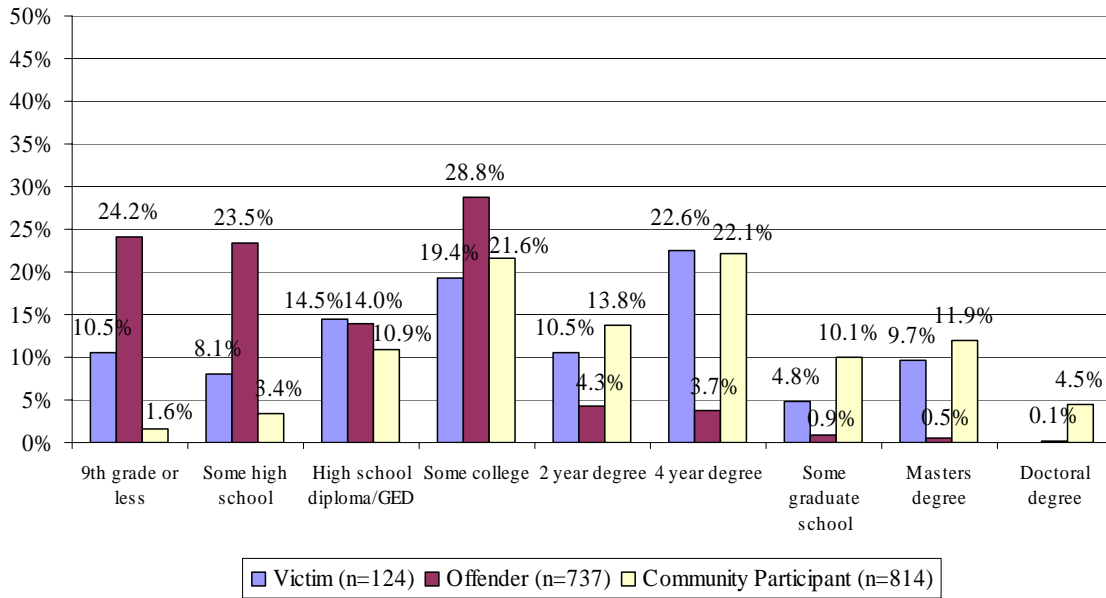


Figure 3. Participant's Age



- ✓ Victim and community participants were quite a bit older than offender participants, with the largest proportions in the 35 to 44 and 45 to 54 year old age categories.
- ✓ Nearly one-fourth of the offenders were under 16 years-old, whereas an additional 45 percent were between 16 and 21. Overall, more than two-thirds of the offenders were 21 years-old or younger.

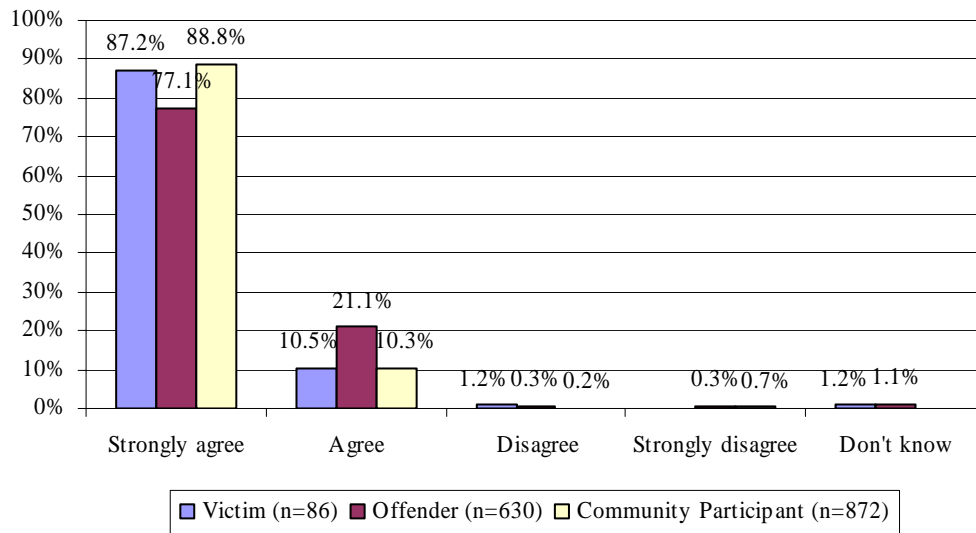
Figure 4. Participant's Education



- ✓ Approximately 81 percent of victim and 95 percent of community participants had at least a high school diploma, while only 52 percent of offenders had reached this education level.
- ✓ Thirty-seven percent of victims and 49 percent of community participants had at least a four-year college degree, while only five percent of offenders had reached this education level.

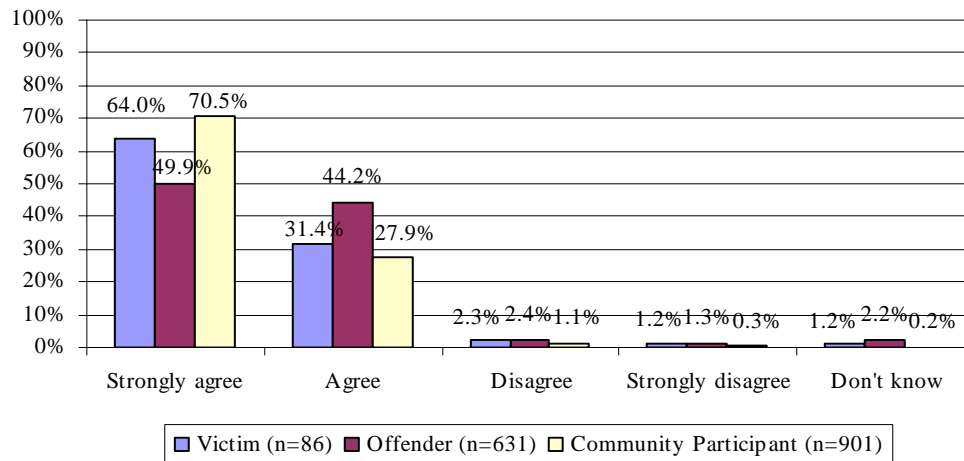
Section 2: Results from the First Post-Test Survey

Figure 5. I felt physically safe while participating in the circle/panel/conference process.



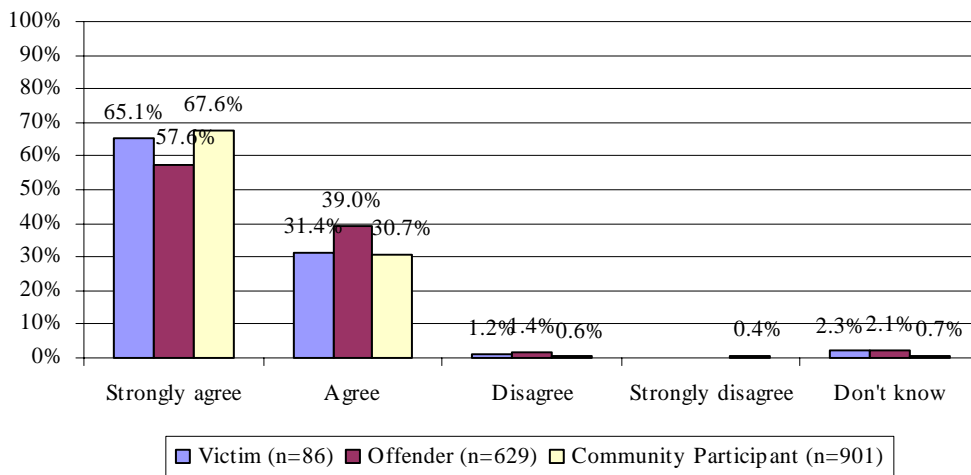
- ✓ A majority of all participants strongly agreed that they felt safe during the process (87% victims, 77% offenders, and 89% community participants).
- ✓ Few participants did not feel safe, as only one victim, four offenders, and eight community participants disagreed or strongly disagreed with the statement.

Figure 6. I felt comfortable sharing my experiences while participating in the circle/panel/conference process.



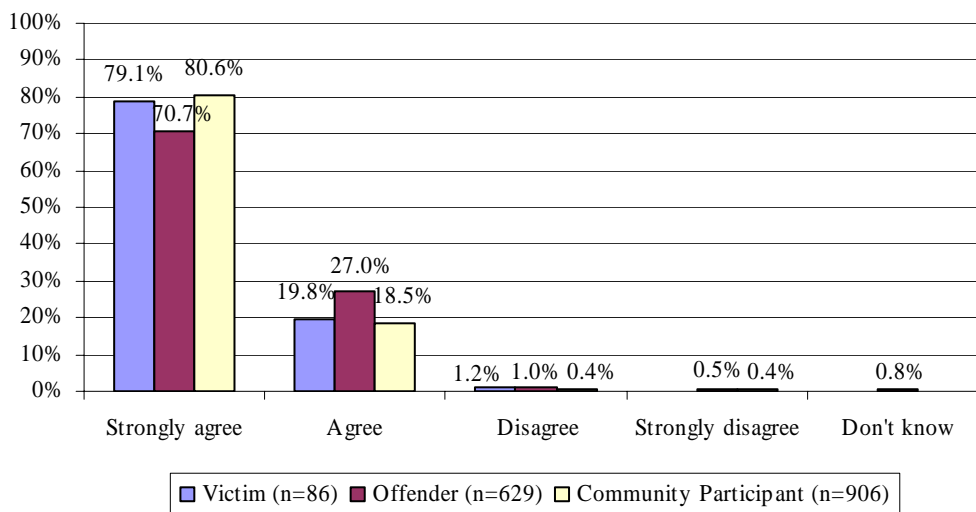
- ✓ Nearly all participants agreed or strongly agreed that they felt comfortable sharing their experiences (95% victims, 94% offenders, and 98% community participants).
- ✓ Relatively few participants did not feel comfortable sharing their experiences. Only three victims, 23 offenders, and 13 community participants disagreed or strongly disagreed with the statement.

Figure 7. I felt that my experiences were heard by the other circle/panel/conference participants.



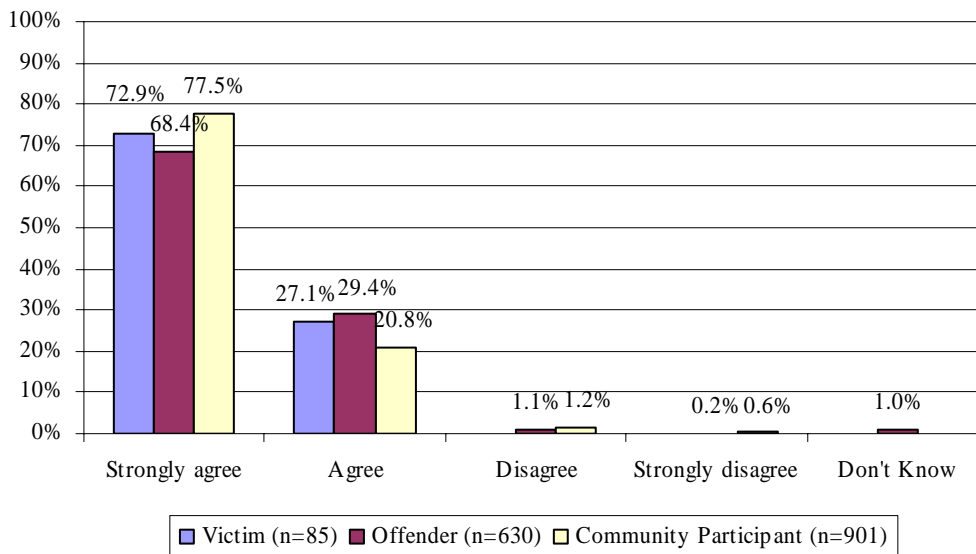
- ✓ Nearly all participants agreed or strongly agreed that their experiences were heard by the other participants (97% victims, 97% offenders, and 98% community participants).
- ✓ Relatively few participants did not feel their experiences were heard by the group. Only one victim, nine offenders, and nine community participants disagreed or strongly disagreed with the statement.

Figure 8. I was treated with respect while participating in the circle/panel/conference process.



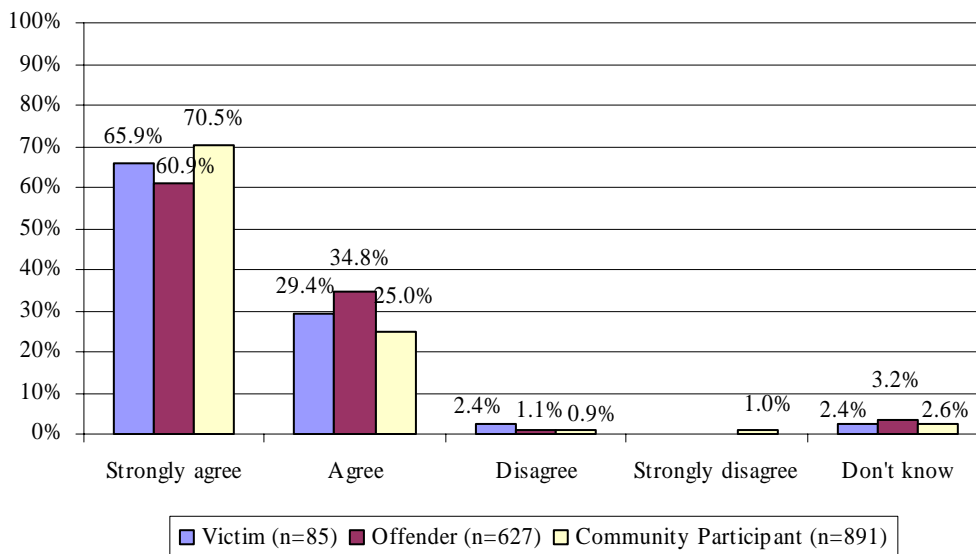
- ✓ A majority of participants strongly agreed that they were treated with respect during the process (79% victims, 71% offenders, and 81% community participants).
- ✓ Only one victim disagreed that they were treated with respect, while nine offenders and eight community participants disagreed or strongly disagreed.

Figure 9. Everyone's comments were given equal time and attention during the circle/panel/conference process.



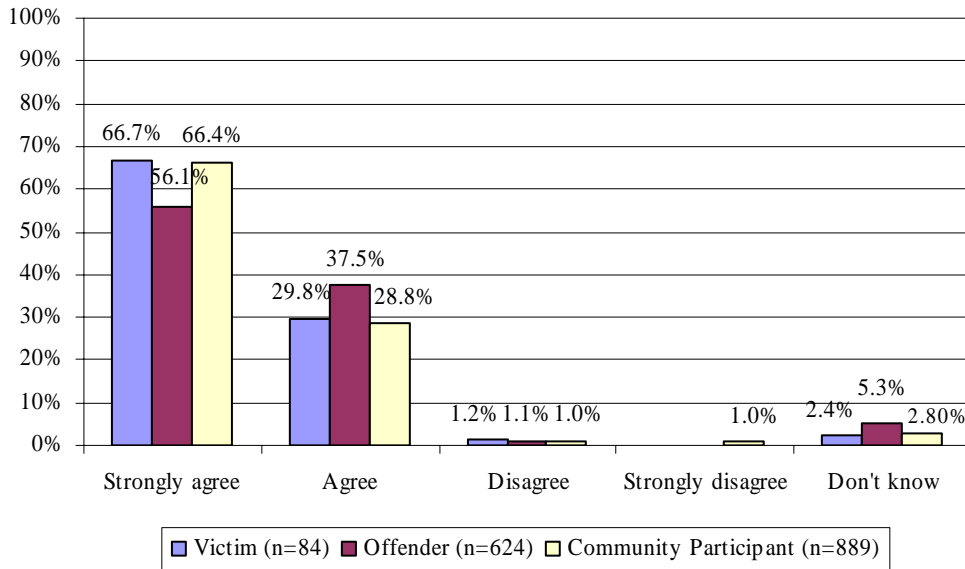
- ✓ A majority of participants strongly agreed that everyone’s comments were given equal time and attention during the process (73% victims, 68% offenders, and 78% community participants).
- ✓ Only eight offenders and 16 community participants disagreed or strongly disagreed with the statement.

Figure 10. The agreement reached by the group was fair to me.



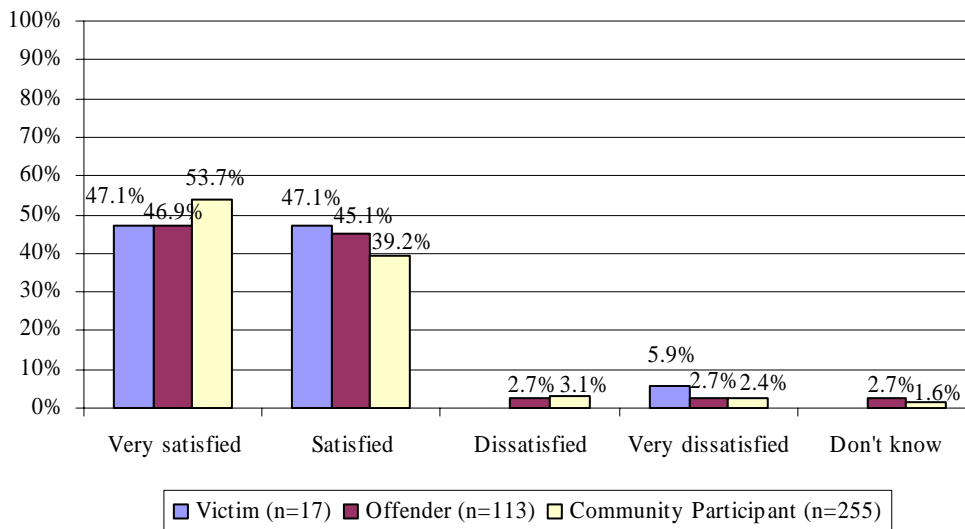
- ✓ A majority of participants felt the agreement was fair to them (66% victims, 61% offenders, and 71% community participants).
- ✓ Only two victims and seven offenders disagreed that the agreement was fair, while 17 community participants disagreed or strongly disagreed.

Figure 11. The agreement reached by the group was fair to all parties.



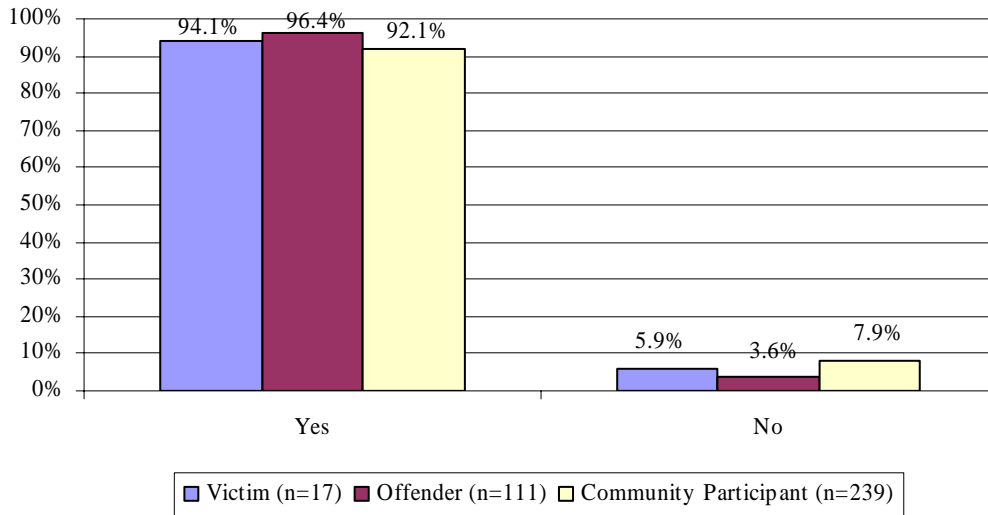
- ✓ Nearly all participants agreed or strongly agreed that the agreement was fair to all participants (96% victims, 94% offenders, and 95% community participants).
- ✓ Only one victim and seven offenders disagreed that the agreement was fair, while 18 community participants disagreed or strongly disagreed.

Figure 12. Overall, how satisfied are you with the outcome of the circle/panel/conference process?



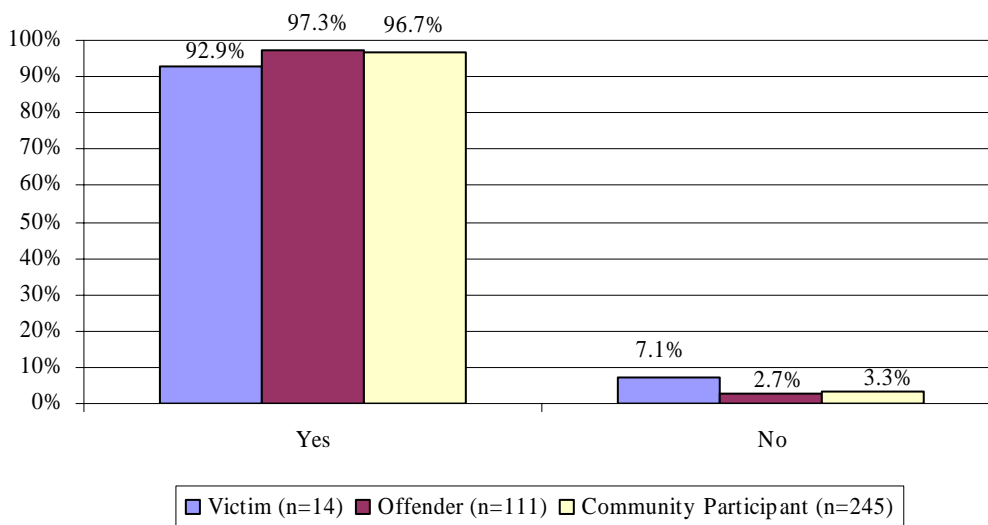
- ✓ Nearly all participants agreed or strongly agreed that they were satisfied with the outcome (94% victims, 92% offenders, and 93% community participants).
- ✓ One victim was very dissatisfied with the outcome, while six offenders and 14 community participants were either dissatisfied or very dissatisfied.

Figure 13. Do you feel that all parties fulfilled their obligations as stated in the agreement?



- ✓ A large majority of participants felt that everyone fulfilled their obligations (94% victims, 96% offenders, and 92% community participants).
- ✓ Only one victim, four offenders, and 19 community participants felt that obligations were not fulfilled.

Figure 14. Would you recommend this program to other people who have experienced this type of crime/are in your position/are in your community?



- ✓ A large majority of participants would recommend the program to others (93% victims, 97% offenders, and 97% community participants).
- ✓ One victim, three offenders, and eight community participants claimed they would not recommend the program to someone in a similar situation.

Section 3: Impact of the Restorative Process on Participant Perceptions

A series of significance tests was conducted to determine if there was a statistically significant difference in participants' feelings following conclusion of the process. Offenders, victims, and community members were asked to respond to two questions that appeared on each of the three surveys; i.e., pre-test, first post-test, and second post-test. Due to the small number of respondents who have completed the final post-test survey, results presented below should be viewed with caution and considered preliminary until more survey data are collected. Also, due to the nature of some crimes, a victim was not always readily identifiable. In these situations, community members affected by the crime participated in the process as a victim. However, because these individuals were asked to complete the community member participant survey, the overall number of victim participant responses will be lower in comparison to those for offenders and community members.

Victims

Victim participants were asked the following two questions on each of the three surveys:

1. How fearful are you of being re-victimized by the offender/s?
2. How confident are you in the ability of the criminal justice system to address the needs of crime victims?
 - ✓ A significant decrease in fear of re-victimization was found among victims from the pre-test to the first post-test (conducted immediately after the process); [t (n=76) = 3.187, p = 0.002].
 - ✓ There was a significant increase, however, in fear of re-victimization among victims from the first post-test to the second [t (n=15) = -2.22, p = 0.044], suggesting that the impact of the restorative process may diminish over time. It is important to point out, however, that only 15 victims completed the second post-test.
 - ✓ There were no significant differences between pre- and post-test survey responses to the second question; that is, victims' confidence in the ability of the criminal justice system to address the needs of crime victims neither increased nor decreased significantly after the restorative process.

Offenders

Offenders were asked the following two questions on each of the three surveys:

1. How much has your criminal behavior impacted others (such as family, friends, and community members)?
2. How confident are you in the ability of the criminal justice system to treat offenders fairly?
 - ✓ A significant increase was found in the degree of impact offenders placed on their crime from the pre-test to the first post-test, [t (n= 595) = -14.406, p = 0.000], as well as from the pre-test to the second post-test [t (n=103) = -2.950, p = 0.004].
 - ✓ There was also a significant increase seen in offenders' confidence that the criminal justice system is able to treat offenders fairly from the pre-test to the first post-test [t (n= 588) = -3.658, p = 0.000].

Community Participants

Community member participants were asked the following two questions on each of the three surveys:

1. How much responsibility should your community take in correcting the effects of crime (“making things right”)?
2. How confident are you in the ability of the criminal justice system to address the needs of communities affected by crime?
 - ✓ A significant increase was found in community participants’ responses regarding the amount of responsibility the community should take in correcting crime from the pre-test to the second post-test [$t(n=156) = -2.765, p = 0.006$], as well as from the first post-test to the second post-test [$t(n=219) = -6.743, p = 0.000$].
 - ✓ From the first post-test to the second post-test, there was a significant increase in confidence among community participants that the criminal justice system can address the needs of the community [$t(n=219) = -3.354, p = 0.001$].

CONCLUSION

The results from this evaluation indicate that offenders who have participated in state-funded RJ programs are more likely to be white males under the age of 22. The vast majority of victim and community member participants have also been white, but they have been older (i.e., 30s and 40s) and more evenly split between males and females.

Consistent with prior research, a relatively high percentage of participants indicated that they were satisfied with the RJ process and would recommend the program to others. The survey data showed that the process significantly increased offenders’ awareness of the impact of their crime(s) as well as community members’ perception that the community should assume a greater role in dealing with crime.

Although the results suggest that the restorative process significantly increased offenders’ and community members’ confidence in the criminal justice system, no such effect was found for victims. The findings indicate, however, that the process produced a short-term reduction in fear of re-victimization for victim participants, although the results from the second post-test survey data suggest this effect may diminish over time. As noted above, though, only a small number of second post-test data were available on victim participants. The DOC is continuing to collect evaluation data from grant award recipients, which will likely shed light on this issue in subsequent reports.

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APPENDIX A: Victim Surveys

Restorative Justice Evaluation

Today's Date: _____

Victim Pre-Test and Second Post-Test Survey

Code Number: _____

This is the first of three short surveys intended to measure satisfaction with restorative justice programming. Your honest feedback is very important to us and will be used to make improvements to our program. Your answers are completely confidential and will not be used in conjunction with your name. You may skip any items that are uncomfortable for you, and you may choose to stop answering these questions at any time. Thank you for your cooperation!

Expectations

Please choose a rating for each of the following questions:

- 1) How fearful are you of being re-victimized by the offender/s?

Not Fearful										Very Fearful
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	

- 2) How confident are you in the ability of the criminal justice system to address the needs of crime victims?

Not Confident										Very Confident
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	

Demographics

Your answers to the following items will allow us to better track the people we serve.

- 3) What is your current age?
- a. _____ 15 or under
 - b. _____ 16 to 21
 - c. _____ 22 to 24
 - d. _____ 25 to 34
 - e. _____ 35 to 44
 - f. _____ 45 to 54
 - g. _____ 55 to 64
 - h. _____ 65 or above
- 4) What is your gender?
- a. _____ Male
 - b. _____ Female
- 5) What is your racial background?
- a. _____ White/Caucasian
 - b. _____ Black/African/African American
 - c. _____ Native American/Alaskan Native
 - d. _____ Asian/Pacific Islander
 - e. _____ Bi-/Multi-racial
 - f. _____ Other

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- 6) What is your ethnic background?
- a. Mexican/Mexican American/Chicano
 - b. Cuban
 - c. Puerto Rican
 - d. Other Spanish/Hispanic/Latino: _____
 - e. I am *not* Spanish/Hispanic/Latino

- 7) How much schooling have you completed?
- a. 9th grade or less
 - b. Some high school
 - c. High school diploma/GED
 - d. Some college
 - e. 2 year degree
 - f. 4 year degree
 - g. Some graduate school
 - h. Masters degree
 - i. Doctoral degree

8) Do you have any other thoughts to share at this time?

Restorative Justice Evaluation

Today's Date: _____

First Post-Test Survey

Code Number: _____

This is the second of three short surveys intended to measure satisfaction with restorative justice programming. Your honest feedback is very important to us and will be used to make improvements to our program. Your answers are completely confidential and will not be used in conjunction with your name. You may skip any items that are uncomfortable for you, and you may choose to stop answering these questions at any time. Thank you for your cooperation!

Please circle the best answer for each of the following questions:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
1) I felt physically safe while participating in the circle/panel/conference process.	SA	A	D	SD	DK
2) I felt comfortable sharing my experiences while participating in the circle/panel/conference process.	SA	A	D	SD	DK
3) I felt that my experiences were heard by the other circle/panel/conference participants.	SA	A	D	SD	DK
4) I was treated with respect while participating in the circle/panel/conference process.	SA	A	D	SD	DK
5) Everyone's comments were given equal time and attention during the circle/panel/conference process.	SA	A	D	SD	DK
6) The agreement reached by the group was fair to me.	SA	A	D	SD	DK
7) The agreement reached by the group was fair to the offender/s.	SA	A	D	SD	DK

TURN PAGE OVER 

8) How fearful are you of being re-victimized by the offender/s?

Not Fearful										Very Fearful
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	

9) How confident are you in the ability of the criminal justice system to address the needs of crime victims??

Not Confident										Very Confident
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	

10) Do you have any other thoughts to share at this time?

APPENDIX B: Offender Surveys

Restorative Justice Evaluation

Today's Date: _____

Offender Pre-Test and Second Post-Test Surveys

Code Number: _____

This is the first of three short surveys intended to measure satisfaction with restorative justice programming. Your honest feedback is very important to us and will be used to make improvements to our program. Your answers are completely confidential and will not be used in conjunction with your name. You may skip any items that are uncomfortable for you, and you may choose to stop answering these questions at any time. Thank you for your cooperation!

Expectations

Please choose a rating for each of the following questions:

- 1) How much has your criminal behavior impacted others (such as family, friends, and community members)?

Not at all										Very Much
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	

- 2) How confident are you in the ability of the criminal justice system to treat offenders fairly?

Not Confident										Very Confident
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	

Demographics

Your answers to the following items will allow us to better track the people we serve.

- 3) What is your current age?
- i. ____ 15 or under
 - j. ____ 16 to 21
 - k. ____ 22 to 24
 - l. ____ 25 to 34
 - m. ____ 35 to 44
 - n. ____ 45 to 54
 - o. ____ 55 to 64
 - p. ____ 65 or above
- 4) What is your gender?
- a. ____ Male
 - b. ____ Female
- 5) What is your racial background?
- g. ____ White/Caucasian
 - h. ____ Black/African/African American
 - i. ____ Native American/Alaskan Native
 - j. ____ Asian/Pacific Islander
 - k. ____ Bi-/Multi-racial
 - l. ____ Other

TURN PAGE OVER ➔

- 6) What is your ethnic background?
- f. Mexican/Mexican American/Chicano
 - g. Cuban
 - h. Puerto Rican
 - i. Other Spanish/Hispanic/Latino: _____
 - j. I am *not* Spanish/Hispanic/Latino

- 7) How much schooling have you completed?
- j. 9th grade or less
 - k. Some high school
 - l. High school diploma/GED
 - m. Some college
 - n. 2 year degree
 - o. 4 year degree
 - p. Some graduate school
 - q. Masters degree
 - r. Doctoral degree

8) Do you have any other thoughts to share at this time?

Restorative Justice Evaluation

Today's Date: _____

First Post-Test Survey

Code Number: _____

This is the second of three short surveys intended to measure satisfaction with restorative justice programming. Your honest feedback is very important to us and will be used to make improvements to our program. Your answers are completely confidential and will not be used in conjunction with your name. You may skip any items that are uncomfortable for you, and you may choose to stop answering these questions at any time. Thank you for your cooperation!

Please circle the best answer for each of the following questions:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
1) I felt physically safe while participating in the circle/panel/conference process.	SA	A	D	SD	DK
2) I felt comfortable sharing my experiences while participating in the circle/panel/conference process.	SA	A	D	SD	DK
3) I felt that my experiences were heard by the other circle/panel/conference participants.	SA	A	D	SD	DK
4) I was treated with respect while participating in the circle/panel/conference process.	SA	A	D	SD	DK
5) Everyone's comments were given equal time and attention during the circle/panel/conference process.	SA	A	D	SD	DK
6) The agreement reached by the group was fair to me.	SA	A	D	SD	DK
7) The agreement reached by the group was fair to the victim/s.	SA	A	D	SD	DK

TURN PAGE OVER 

8) How much has your criminal behavior impacted others (such as family, friends, and community members)?

Not at all										Very Much
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	

9) How confident are you in the ability of the criminal justice system to treat offenders fairly?

Not Confident										Very Confident
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	

10) Do you have any other thoughts to share at this time?

APPENDIX C: Community Member Surveys

Restorative Justice Evaluation

Today's Date: _____

Pre-Test and Second Post-Test Survey

Code Number: _____

This is the first of three short surveys intended to measure satisfaction with restorative justice programming. Your honest feedback is very important to us and will be used to make improvements to our program. Your answers are completely confidential and will not be used in conjunction with your name. You may skip any items that are uncomfortable for you, and you may choose to stop answering these questions at any time. Thank you for your cooperation!

Expectations

Please choose a rating for each of the following questions:

- 1) How much responsibility should your community take in correcting the effects of crime ("making things right")?

None										All
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	

- 2) How confident are you in the ability of the criminal justice system to address the needs of communities affected by crime?

Not Confident										Very Confident
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	

Demographics

Your answers to the following items will allow us to better track the people we serve.

- 3) What is your current age?
- a. ____ 15 or under
 - b. ____ 16 to 21
 - c. ____ 22 to 24
 - d. ____ 25 to 34
 - e. ____ 35 to 44
 - f. ____ 45 to 54
 - g. ____ 55 to 64
 - h. ____ 65 or above
- 4) What is your gender?
- a. ____ Male
 - b. ____ Female
- 5) What is your racial background?
- m. ____ White/Caucasian
 - n. ____ Black/African/African American
 - o. ____ Native American/Alaskan Native
 - p. ____ Asian/Pacific Islander
 - q. ____ Bi-/Multi-racial
 - r. ____ Other

TURN PAGE OVER ➔

- 6) What is your ethnic background?
- k. Mexican/Mexican American/Chicano
 - l. Cuban
 - m. Puerto Rican
 - n. Other Spanish/Hispanic/Latino: _____
 - o. I am *not* Spanish/Hispanic/Latino

- 7) How much schooling have you completed?
- s. 9th grade or less
 - t. Some high school
 - u. High school diploma/GED
 - v. Some college
 - w. 2 year degree
 - x. 4 year degree
 - y. Some graduate school
 - z. Masters degree
 - aa. Doctoral degree

8) Do you have any other thoughts to share at this time?

Restorative Justice Evaluation

Today's Date: _____

First Post-Test Survey

Code Number: _____

This is the second of three short surveys intended to measure satisfaction with restorative justice programming. Your honest feedback is very important to us and will be used to make improvements to our program. Your answers are completely confidential and will not be used in conjunction with your name. You may skip any items that are uncomfortable for you, and you may choose to stop answering these questions at any time. Thank you for your cooperation!

Please circle the best answer for each of the following questions:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
1) I felt physically safe while participating in the circle/panel/conference process.	SA	A	D	SD	DK
2) I felt comfortable sharing my experiences while participating in the circle/panel/conference process.	SA	A	D	SD	DK
3) I felt that my experiences were heard by the other circle/panel/conference participants.	SA	A	D	SD	DK
4) I was treated with respect while participating in the circle/panel/conference process.	SA	A	D	SD	DK
5) Everyone's comments were given equal time and attention during the circle/panel/conference process.	SA	A	D	SD	DK
6) The agreement reached by the group was fair to me.	SA	A	D	SD	DK
7) The agreement reached by the group was fair to all parties in this case.	SA	A	D	SD	DK

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8) How much responsibility should your community take in correcting the effects of crime (“making things right”)?

None										All
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	

9) How confident are you in the ability of the criminal justice system to address the needs of communities affected by crime?

Not Confident										Very Confident
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	

10) Do you have any other thoughts to share at this time?

APPENDIX D: State-Funded Grantees, FY 2005

1. Brown County Probation
2. Clay County Joint Powers Collaborative
3. Dispute Resolution Center (St. Paul)
4. Dodge/Fillmore/Olmsted Community Corrections
5. Forest Lake Youth Service Bureau
6. Men As Peacemakers (Duluth)
7. Mower County Correctional Services
8. PACT 4 Families Collaborative (Willmar)
9. Powderhorn Park Neighborhood Association (Minneapolis)
10. Restorative Justice Community Action, Inc. (Minneapolis)
11. South St. Paul Restorative Justice Council
12. Tri-County Community Corrections (Polk, Red Lake, and Norman Counties)
13. Wabasha County Restorative Justice Program
14. Winona County Restorative Justice Program

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