Working with Community Networks to Establish and Train Leadership Groups

CYCLE 1:
Faith Communities
Youth and School Communities
Magistrates, Law Enforcement, Courts Systems
Physical and Mental Health Communities

CYCLE 2:
Neighborhoods, Townships and Community Policing Areas
Universities and Colleges
Business and Employment Agencies
Government and Public Policy Structures

CYCLE 3:
Public Comment and Review
Summary Presentations and Call for Refining
Strategic Planning and Standards for Accountability
Public Release, Statements of Atonement and Adoption of Plan

Assign Mentors and Accountability Partners to meet annually which will in part be sustained by the Restorative Community Foundation.

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A Restorative Community would likely have…

Schools
- Full School conflict resolution education programs
- School discipline policies allow for restorative measures when addressing wrongs in preference to exclusionary practices
- School administrators and teachers have 25 hours of restorative practices and conflict resolution training

University/Colleges
- Conflict studies and training
- School policies allow for restorative measures when addressing wrongs within the university in preference to exclusionary practices
- Education and Social Sciences degrees include 40 hours of restorative practices and conflict resolution training

Community
- Community Conferencing Centers for Victim-Offender Dialogue Meetings and Community Conciliation Cases
- Community Response Teams for victims
- Support and Accountability Teams for offenders
- Community Policing
- Support programs for family of victims and offenders
- Child Advocacy Center
- Incentives for using alternative dispute resolution to address conflicts
- Child care programs leaders and staff receive 25 hours of restorative practices and conflict resolution training

Health Services
- Assurance of physical and mental health needs being provided
- Support counseling for individuals and their families
- Substance Abuse Treatment
- Impact statements available for determination of needs and responsibilities

Faith Organizations
- Coordinated and supported in taking on community service sentencing supervision, support groups, healing and reconciliation, community impact statements for courts, reforms
- Members included in VOM and Support and Accountability Conferences
- Asked to serve on Public Policy Planning and Review Boards
Courts
• Restorative Justice Coordinators who may also serve the court in the Community Conferencing Centers
• Restorative plans and diversion contracts affect sentencing decisions based on successful compliance prior to sentencing
• Victim Assistance and information about court proceedings as well as prepared impact statements for court determinations
• Separation and Child Custody Contracts with mediators
• Restorative Conferencing for offenders with mental health limitations

Policing
• Community Police coordinate with community leadership
• Specialist in Restorative Justice also provide training for the department
• Coordinators for Mental Health needs of offenders and victims
• School Resource Officers trained in VOM conferencing

Corrections and Re-Entry
• Access to substance abuse, trauma and mental health treatments
• Educational and job skills programs
• Opportunities to be responsible to family obligations and victim restitution agreements
• Open to VOM and Victim Advocacy Conferencing
• Coordinators for community release to Support and Accountability Programs in the communities where they will live and work.
• Programs for Women (improved)

Business and Employment
• Incentives for employers to hire individuals who are in restorative programs at fair labor wages
• Business Community’s Cooperative with policing in processing theft and property damage to reduce time and cost of court procedures

Offenders
• Opportunities for ex-offenders to have full citizenship rights restored
• Family impact statements developed for sentencing and separation decisions.
• Legal services for correcting court records

Public Policy Reviews and Recommendations
• Commission to review current and past needs to redress justice restoratively and to evaluate current justice policy’s impacts on the community (financial and human resources)
• Strategic Planning and report to city/county government
• Periodic reviews of community’s needs and program assessment
• Plan and coordinate trainings and conferences
Endorsements for Restorative Justice and Restorative Practices:

- Minnesota Department of Children, Families and Learning (since mid 1990’s)
- Indiana Youth Services Association Center for Evaluation and Educational Policy 2004
- League of Women Voters of Virginia in 2005
- Virginia Governor’s Task Force of Preventing Crime in Virginia’s Minority Communities 2005
- School Days at the 14th World Congress on Criminology 2005, International Society of Criminology, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia
- Minnesota Department of Corrections, 1995
- Illinois Juvenile Justice Program, Dept. of Human Services, 1998
- General Assembly of the State of Colorado, 1999
- Vermont Department of Corrections, 2000
- Hawaii State Legislature House of Representatives, 2000
- General Assembly of the State of Pennsylvania, 1995
- VOMA Victim Offender Mediation Association
- Association of Conflict Resolution
- U.S. Department of Justice: Office of Justice Programs
- Judicial Council of California, Administrative Office of the Courts, 2004