RESTORATIVE COMMUNITY CONFERENCE PILOT PROJECT

STATUS REPORT
MAY 2014 THROUGH JANUARY 2020

FEBRUARY 4, 2020

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The Restorative Community Conference (RCC) Pilot Project is an alternative method to address juvenile delinquent behavior. Unlike traditional juvenile court and diversion, RCC requires voluntary participation of the youth responsible for the crime, the victim, and the community.

After a series of meetings to prepare each person individually, all participants (including the youth responsible for harm (“juvenile offender”), their families, the persons harmed (“victim”), community members, and community-based social service providers) convene for a confidential joint meeting, the RCC.

The goals of RCC include: 1) holding the youth accountable in a non-punitive manner; 2) having a victim centered dialogue; and 3) collaborative creating a voluntary plan for the youth to complete to repair harm caused to victim, community, family and self. If no agreement on the plan is reached, the case is returned to juvenile court.

The statistics in this report include data from the program inception, May 2014 through January 2020.

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**Overview**

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**Statistics**

| Total Referrals | 283 |
| Screened out\(^1\) | 26.8% (76) |
| Redirected to RP in Schools\(^2\) | 2.1% (6) |
| RCC Agreement Rate | 100% (158 of 158) |
| Plan Completion Rate | 98% (151 of 154) |
| Total Circle Participants | 1,550\(^3\) |
| | 1,000 have been new participants |

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\(^1\) Reasons for screening out cases include: youth not accepting responsibility, victim declines, facilitator determines process would not be beneficial to all participants, youth or victim unavailable, and statute of limitations.

\(^2\) Cases not eligible for RCC referred to SDUSD RJP Department

\(^3\) Best estimate of participants for each case. More accurate numbers will be available later in 2019. Circle participants are defined as: responsible youth, person harmed, caregivers, community members, and recurring individuals.

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Statistics

Referrals Sources

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Probation</td>
<td>170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joint Referral DA/PubDef</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District Attorney</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SDUSD Police</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SDPD</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheriff</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Primary Charges

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Charge</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assault</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Battery</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burglary</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theft</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vandalism</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No charges (Community Ref)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resisting Arrest</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Demographics

Age & Gender of Responsible Youth

Race / Ethnicity of Responsible Youth

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Post Conference Surveys

At the end of the RCC, participants are asked to complete an evaluation survey. The surveys are customized for: 1) youth; 2) person harmed; and 3) all other participants.

Q: Was the RCC helpful to you?

**Person Harmed (N=45)**

- Yes: 46, 87%
- Somewhat: 7, 13%
- No: 7, 13%

**Responsible Youth (N = 85)**

- Yes: 99, 93%
- Somewhat: 7, 7%

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**Q: Was the RCC meaningful to you?**

All Other Participants (N=300)

- 347 (91%): Yes
- 7 (2%): 4)
- 2 (1%): 3)
- 3 (1%): 2)
- 21 (5%): 1) No

**Q: Would you recommend the RCC process to others in a similar situation?**

- Person Harmed
  - 46 (100%): Yes
  - 0 (0%): No

- Responsible Youth
  - 94 (98%): Yes
  - 2 (2%): No

- All Others
  - 374 (100%): Yes
  - 0 (0%): No

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This report includes a set of reviewed recidivism data points: Cumulative – cases from pilot start May 2014 through February 2019.

For a deeper analysis and comparison of restorative justice programs and traditional juvenile justice systems state-wide, refer to the following report published by the Center on Juvenile and Criminal Justice.

Youth participating in RCC six months after case closed (n = 78)

- No New Offense: 96%
- New Offense: 4%

Youth not participating in RCC six months after case closed (n = 55)

- No New Offense: 87%
- New Offense: 13%

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Youth participating in RCC three years after case closed (n = 28)

- 82% No New Offense
- 18% New Offense

Youth not participating in RCC three years after case closed (n = 24)

- 67% No New Offense
- 33% New Offense

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