

### What is the Restorative Justice Project of the Midcoast?

The Restorative Justice Project of the Midcoast (RJP) is a non-profit 501(c)3 program founded in 2005. RJP is a court diversion program that provides juvenile offenders with the chance to avoid arrest, adjudication, jail and probation. In addition, RJP provides adult offenders with the opportunity and skills to successfully reenter their community. The data presented here is from cases with offenders 17 years and younger. As of March 2014, 52.6% of RJP juvenile participants have been assessed by the DOC to be of moderate or high risk. For these individuals, restorative community conferencing is an Intervention program.

#### Core Values: Honesty Integrity Responsibility

The philosophy of RJP is that when someone breaks the law they are damaging relationships-- hurting themselves and their community, often because they chose to act in a way that disregarded one or more of these core values.

#### The Process

In Maine, when a crime is committed, the court can divert their case to RJP. The program brings the offender into a circle with the person they harmed, their family and members of the community. Together they work out an agreement for the offender to complete in order to repair the harm.

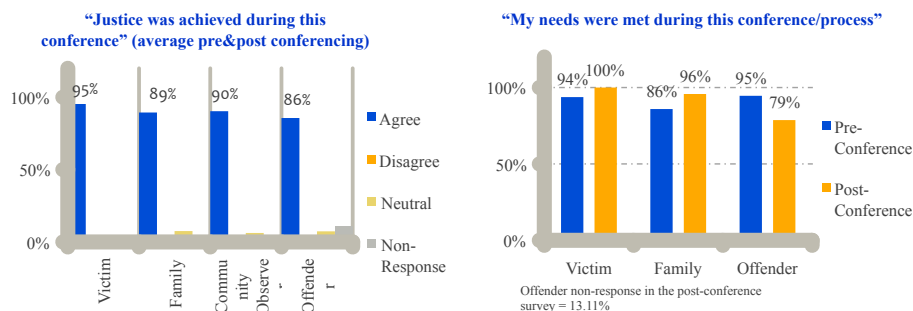


When the repair agreement is completed the court will reduce or eliminate their charge.

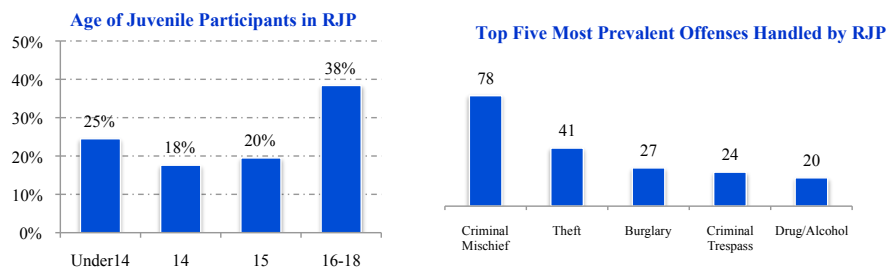
P.O. Box 141, Belfast, ME 04915

### Effectiveness

Based on surveys completed after the initial conference and following the completion of the repair agreement



100% of victims in the post-conference survey claimed they would **not** have been more satisfied had their case gone to court and that they would recommend a restorative process to another in a similar situation.

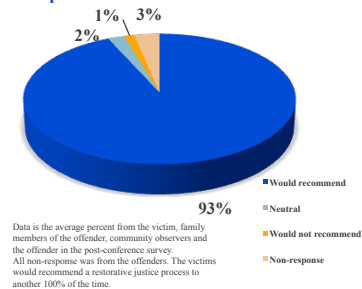


### What does it mean?

Although the true value of restorative conferencing lies not in graphs and charts, but in the emotions, support and confidence of people in their community, this data does show some pretty fantastic things:

Needs are met in an overwhelming fashion for all involved, including members of the community with no direct ties to the harm that occurred. On average, 90% of all those involved believed that justice was achieved using the restorative process.

#### I would recommend the restorative justice process to another in a similar situation



### Why support RJP?

**"It makes a world of difference."**  
- referring JCCO

RJP helps bring accountability and support back into the lives of individuals and the community as a whole.

Crime harms all parts of society. Locking offenders away does nothing to repair the harm that was caused. By bringing them back into the community, everyone has a chance to heal and move forward.

[www.rjpmidcoast.org](http://www.rjpmidcoast.org)

Engaging Community, Building Lives, Restoring Hope