



# Kaleidoscope

# JUSTICE

Highlighting Restorative Juvenile Justice

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**H**ow do you define community? Is it your family and friends, maybe co-workers? Is it the town or city where you live? Or does it include only those places where you work, shop, take your children to school, worship? Perhaps you define community as the neighborhood where you live—one block of a street or several streets in a well-defined area. Here in the U.S., communities have all

**Balanced and Restorative Justice: Bringing communities together**

to often become phantom concepts, and we are left on our own to determine what constitutes our community.

This is quite unlike what is experienced in other countries where people know what comprises their community. As U.S. citizens disagreed over the definition of

community at the Second International Conference on Restorative Justice for Juvenile in 1998, Professor Elmar Weitekamp from Germany defined community. It is the small town where his family has lived for generations and to which all his siblings were returning following their college education which was received elsewhere. Hence, he did not understand all the confusion over “community.”

In this issue of *Kaleidoscope*, we look at how restorative justice impacts community. And in doing so we get some sense of the efforts that must be made to find community. Some small towns have a ready-made community, full of volunteers wanting to participate in Family Group Conferencing. Other areas seek out people from various segments of society—business, faith, labor, education, home—in order to establish a local juvenile justice council and develop community. Some areas look for volunteers to work with youthful community members in mentoring and competency development programs.

Some communities do not know they are a community until they are faced with a major crime or a crime wave. Then fear, anger, a need for companionship in a situation they don’t understand, brings people

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together. All too often they come together to place blame—on law enforcement, prosecutors, the courts, offenders, sometimes, even victims.

And community is what victims of crime often seek as they search for ways to understand and deal with what happened to them. Again, all too often, they find that the community doesn’t understand, that it does not want to deal with the pain they are facing, and simply want them to get over it quickly.

Balanced and restorative justice is about restoring the very best of community. It is about community that helps those who are hurt by crime, discovering what harm has been done and seeking ways to address that harm. It is about community that finds ways to hold the offender accountable, not in order to punish but in order to help the victim and to develop those skills necessary for living in community. Thus, it is about community that accepts its responsibility for establishing the norms for all its citizens and finding ways to help them live up to those expectations.

Community—it’s a major part of what restorative justice is about. ●

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## Spotlight on

# Illinois counties move toward restorative justice

Illinois is a diverse state with a mix of urban and rural areas even within the same county. It only makes sense, therefore, that restorative justice is going to be implemented in a variety of ways around the state. Along with the changes in the juvenile code, the state legislature designated \$33 million for the first year of a three year plan for implementing new programs under the code.

### Prosecutors seek out restorative programs

Illinois prosecutors were the driving force for including restorative justice in the code change. They are now accessing the designated funds to implement restorative programs out of their offices. Catherine Ryan, Chief of the Juvenile Justice Bureau, Cook County State Attorney's Office, and a chief architect of the reform bill, points out that her office contracts with a variety of agencies to provide services for juvenile offenders. In Chicago, these agencies are being encouraged by Ryan's office to redesign their programs to include BARJ principles.

One such program, Community Mediation, is an alternative to court working with youthful offenders through community service and competency development programs. An agency offering rehabilitation to drug offenders is designing its programs to include victim impact panels, community service and competency development. A program is also being developed for youth on probation for gun offenses. Called "In My Shoes," the participants will hear from victims of gun violence and perform their community service in a rehabilitation hospital.

Ryan also reports that plans are in the works to begin pilot programs in three local communities in Cook County working with local agencies to implement BARJ programs.

### Probation departments develop BARJ programs

In Illinois, the probation staff are employees of the local circuit court. The state judicial agency reimburses counties for the cost of probation to the levels funded by the state legislature. The state provides the training and sets the standards, but it is up to the individual counties to decide what steps they will take to implement each new law.

### Ford County implements Family Group Conferencing

Two hours south of Chicago in Ford County, the probation department has turned to Real Justice for training on how to implement a restorative justice program. Rural, with a population under 15,000, Ford County has one judge on its circuit. Probation Director Sally Wolf, the judge, and a probation officer attended a conference on restorative justice sponsored by the National

In the previous issue we looked at Illinois' new Juvenile Justice Reform Provisions of 1998 and how this changed the juvenile code by including balanced and restorative justice. This article looks at some of the changes being made around the state that are restorative in nature.

Institute for Corrections; they all returned "psyched" by what they learned. Their major learning: this was something that had to be owned by the community. Wolf and the judge, therefore, went on a speaking circuit to a wide variety of civic groups, and returned to those communities where the idea was embraced.

Twenty community people in Ford County have been trained by Real Justice in family group conferencing. Wolf attended the "Training the Trainers" workshop and is now able to do her own training. About twelve conferences have been done so far and they experienced success with them all.

Wolf has not had any problem involving victims in the process so far. Her next major project is to set up a database so that she can do evaluations of the program. She is working with the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority so that everything will be coordinated right from the beginning. Meanwhile, Ford County has more community people wanting to be conference facilitators than offenders and victims.

Peg Robertson, Probation Program Coordinator for the Illinois Administrative Office of the Courts, sees the new juvenile code as freeing people to think more creatively about what they are doing. She notes that local community councils are being developed in some areas giving community members a voice in the justice system. She also sees various juvenile justice players who are not eager to adopt something new. And with no time frame attached to the act and no components of what balanced and restorative justice is suppose to look like being dictated by the code, Robertson knows that some counties will be slow to change. She is on the lookout for BARJ programs from Illinois that are working to use as models within the state.

### Madison County implements BARJ

One place she is looking is Madison County in southern Illinois across the river from St. Louis, Missouri. With a population of 250,000, Madison County has a mix of urban and rural with several major cities with populations of 40,000. Judy Dallas, Deputy Chief Probation Officer, is head of the 18-month old Community Corrections Axillary Services unit. The Probation Department created two satellite offices to be closer to the neighborhoods where they deal with an average of 3700 adult and juvenile offenders per year. Restorative justice programs include: Cognitive Probation, school-based probation officers, Employment Education, a Victim Assistance Specialist, and Mentoring.

Cognitive Probation (COG for short) works to change youths' thinking habits, teaching them how to make better choices. Five groups meet each week in gender specific groupings of 10-12 youths aged 12-16 years old. The 24-hour juvenile holding

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As a criminal case wends its way through the district attorney's office and court the victim of the crime may, all too often, be confused, lost and feel left out of the process. In Travis County, Texas, the Victim/Witness Division sees to it that victims of crimes are involved in meaningful ways throughout the process that could take up to a year before coming to resolution. And, according to Ellen Halbert, director of the Victim/Witness Division for the past year and a half, her job and that of her staff is to help victims realize that the end of the court process may be an end of a phase but won't necessarily bring healing. Halbert has seen the results of placing too much faith in the criminal justice process to heal the wounds of crime. She remembers one woman who burst into tears when the court case ended, even though the offender had been found guilty. The woman now had to find some other way to deal with her anger.

Halbert oversees six counselors who work with victims of felony crimes. She could use more. She stresses that these are the tough cases. The six counselors work in five district courts and one juvenile court. But in spite of the pressures of working with an overcrowded caseload, all of the counselors are involved in community outreach programs including circle sentencing, neighborhood conferencing committees, and victim offender mediation. Restorative justice is the paradigm from which they all work. How does she define restorative justice? Halbert doesn't really care what you call it as long as the victim and the community are involved. For her, the thought process is important, basing your actions on restorative values is the bottom line.

Halbert did not come to her involvement with the criminal justice system easily. In 1986, she was raped, stabbed four times, beaten, and left for dead. It took 600 stitches to close her

wounds. The offender, an 18-year old, had actually tried to hammer the knife into her head. It took several years before Halbert could talk about her ordeal, but when she did she was empowered by the experience.



Halbert has seen the results of placing too much faith in ability of the criminal justice process to heal the wounds of crime.



Her speaking out drew the attention of Ann Richards, then governor of Texas. In 1991, Richards appointed Halbert to the powerful Texas Board of Criminal Justice that has oversight of the prisons, probation, parole, and the state jail system.

Despite her personal involvement with the criminal justice system, (her attacker had been caught, tried, and sentenced to life (which means 20 years) in prison), Halbert admits she had a lot to learn to fulfill her new position. Though it is an unpaid position, Halbert quit her job and devoted herself to it full time, touring the state and meeting the people involved in the system. It wasn't long before she became frustrated with what she saw. "What would these people be like when they got out?" Out of this frustration, Halbert began searching for something better – and found it in restorative justice.

Quoting Howard Zehr, Halbert believes restorative justice is an attitude and requires looking at the criminal justice system through a "different lens." "Restorative justice doesn't belong in any one place but everywhere. It is not any one program but a whole way of looking

Restorative justice seeks to place the harm done to the victim in the center of the search for justice. All too often the victim is left out of the process altogether. Ellen Halbert works to see that the concerns of the victim are placed center stage.

at how to respond to crime."

Halbert now finds herself in the enviable position of working with a district attorney who is a firm believer in restorative justice. Ronnie Earle wants Halbert to take even more cases to the community for resolution. It is his vision that allows Halbert and her staff to do their work in ways that can bring the healing victims desire. She remembers one recent case in which a woman assaulted a police officer, demanding that he arrest her and lock her up. The officer did so, but was uncomfortable with the situation. It was discovered that the woman had had a very bad reaction to a prescription drug. Although assault on an officer is considered a very serious crime, Halbert's staff decided to hold a Healing Circle. This process allowed the officer and the woman both to discuss their feelings about what had happened, and the case was dismissed.

Halbert finds that it is the victim oriented people who often have problems with a restorative justice approach. But Halbert believes that this is because they do not understand what restorative justice is truly about. All too often they think that the victim is required to forgive the offender. Halbert believes that she has been able to educate people about restorative justice and help them move beyond their misconceptions. She finds that once people have experienced a restorative justice process they are converted.

And what of her own case? The offender has now served fourteen years in prison; he will get out one day. And she is worried. Worried because nothing in prison has helped him deal with his rage against women. He has been assaultive in prison and, therefore, has been confined to administrative segregation most of that time. Retributive justice has not worked in her case. Halbert still believes in the difference the attitude of restorative justice can make. ●

# NATIONAL SURVEY LOOKS AT STATES' DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF RESTORATIVE JUSTICE POLICY—PART 3

by Sandra Pavelka O'Brien, A.B.D.



Several years after restorative justice first appeared in the United States, the staff at the BARJ Project decided it was time to assess if and how restorative justice principles are being used in all fifty states. Conducted from January through March 1999, the *National Restorative Juvenile Justice Policy Development and Implementation Assessment* (1999) inquired about the development and implementation of restorative justice policies and practices in the juvenile justice system. This survey represents the first national survey undertaken in the field of

restorative justice relating to organizational reform and policy implementation at the state level.

The technique for conducting the survey involved initial telephone conversations with juvenile justice professionals in each state to determine the most appropriate individual to be interviewed for the survey. A final compiled list included one restorative justice professional who served as the respondent from each state.

Previous issues of *Kaleidoscope* looked at the number of states with a restorative justice policy, how it was initiated, what conditions influenced the change and who is responsible for implementing restorative justice policy.

## Section 4

### How is restorative justice operationalized in each state?

- Have any programs based on the restorative justice philosophy been implemented? Community service, community supervision, mediation, restitution, or others?

## Section 4

Table 1 aggregately lists the number of States implementing specific restorative justice programs (e.g., arbitration, community courts, community focus groups, community probation, community service, community supervision, community surveys, conferencing, mediation, mentoring, reparative boards, restitution, victim impact panels, victim impact statements, victim services, and work crews). The most common restorative justice practice among the States is restitution (41 States, or 82 percent), community service (39 States, or 78 percent), and mediation (36 States, or 72 percent). Other common practices include: victims services (16 States, or 32 percent), conferencing (12 States, or 24 percent), and reparative boards (11 States, or 22 percent). Table 4 also provides other

names associated with these programs. A typical State has an average of 4.32 types of restorative justice practices implemented within its jurisdiction.<sup>1</sup>

Several respondents mentioned that the programs allow for flexibility and options in dealing with offenders, victims, and the community. These programs are specific to the needs of the community, “not one size fits all,” as one respondent stated. Other survey participants discussed that partnerships have formed with local nonprofit organizations, schools, churches, and local businesses in developing and implementing these programs.

<sup>1</sup> Forty-four States (88 percent) had restorative programs in place prior to implementing restorative justice.

## Section 5

### What is the level of funding and resources appropriated for restorative justice programs and practices?

- Indicate the approximate annual funding.
- Who receives the primary funding?
- Who is the funding source?

## Section 5

Another factor that is important in the feasibility of desired change is a sufficient resource base. Sufficient resources most often promise reasonable returns for policy goals. The allocation of State and Federal funding to juvenile justice programs has greatly increased in the past decade. Although funding levels may seem high, amounts may not be as elevated when compared with the total allocation. Figure 1 represents the approximate annual funding for restorative justice initiatives and/or programs. Twenty-two States (44 percent) have allocated more than \$250,000 annually to restorative justice initiatives and/or programs. Three States (6 percent) allocate \$100,000 to \$250,000, 7 states (14 percent) allocate \$25,000 to \$100,000 and ten States (20 percent) allocate up to

\$5,000 for restorative justice programs and/or initiatives. Key informants in 7 States were unsure of the total funding in this category.<sup>1</sup>

The funding source for restorative justice initiatives and programs is illustrated in Figure 2. Thirty-two States (64 percent) receive funding for restorative justice programs and initiatives from multiple sources. Two States (4 percent) receive funding from

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**Table 1: Restorative Justice Programs in the States**

Restorative Justice Programs	Other Names Associated With Programs	Total # of States Implementing These Programs
Arbitration	Community arbitration Juvenile arbitration	2
Community courts	Community justice centers Drug courts Juvenile hearing boards Teen courts Tribal courts Youth courts	9
Community focus groups		1
Community probation		1
Community service		39
Community supervision		16
Community surveys		1
Conferencing	Circle sentencing Community conferencing Community panels Community Resolution Teams Family group conferencing Hoopoonopono Peacemaking circles Peace sentencing circles Restorative conferencing	12
Mediation	Victim offender mediation Victim offender reconciliation	36
Mentoring		2
Reparative boards	Community accountability boards Community restorative boards Neighborhood youth panels Restorative probation boards Victim accountability boards	11
Restitution	Victim compensation	41
Victim impact panels		7
Victim impact statements		3
Victims services	Victim awareness class Victim focus groups Victim fund Victim impact classes Victim notification Victim services coordinator	16
Work crews	Crime repair crews Habitat for Humanity Offender service projects Pay-work option	9

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**Survey - Continued from page 4**

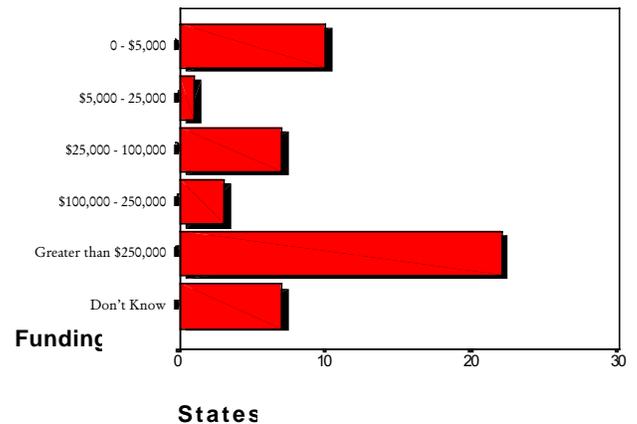
Federal pass-through dollars, 2 States (4 percent) receive funding from Federal sources, 10 States (20 percent) allocate State dollars, and 1 State (2 percent) allocates county dollars. Three States (6 percent) do not allocate any funds for restorative justice purposes.

South Dakota, for example, does not allocate specific funds to operate restorative programs, but rather relies on volunteers, and in some cases, former offenders, as staff and administrators. Conversely, the State of Pennsylvania, which adopted balanced and restorative justice in 1995, has recently earmarked \$10 million in additional funding from the legislature. This funding is allocated for new staff positions that will be oriented at the community level.<sup>2</sup> Furthermore, any program in Pennsylvania that receives State money must adhere to the balanced and restorative justice principles. States such as Alaska, Montana, and Washington have similar policy requirements for funding recipients.

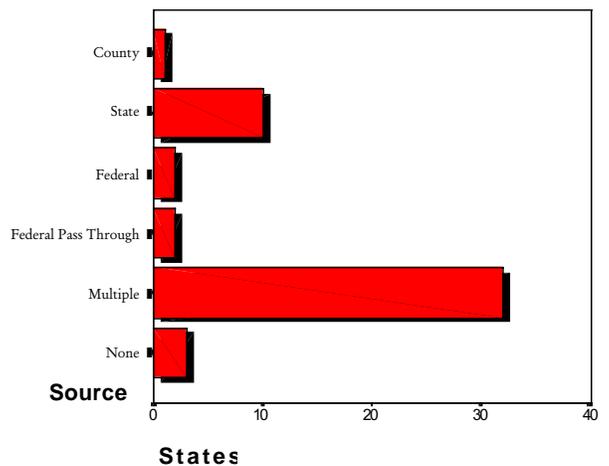
<sup>1</sup> Respondents were unsure of specific funding because the initiatives and/or programs were in various lines within the State budget and exact amounts were difficult to track.

<sup>2</sup> The funding is earmarked specifically for staff positions, such as community representative and community supervision staff. ●

**Figure 1: Approximate Annual Funding for Restorative Justice**



**Figure 2: Funding Sources**



# Let Us Seek Justice:

## A Reflection Following the Death of Amadou Diallo

by Evelyn Hanneman

Editor, Kaleidoscope of Justice  
Director, Restorative Justice Program  
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On February 4, 1999, a young black man, Amadou Diallo, was shot to death by four New York City police officers as he stood in the doorway of his Bronx apartment building. Forty-one bullets were fired. The police officers claim they thought he had a gun. The victim actually had pulled his wallet out of his pocket. At their trial, the jury found the officers not guilty of any crime.

Following the jury's decision in the trial of the four police officers charged in the shooting death of Amadou Diallo, many people have voiced their opinion that justice was not done. As painful as it may be, they need to take a step back from their emotions and realize that, in our criminal justice system, justice is a determination of whether a law of the State has been broken and, if so, who has broken it. The jury decided that, given the facts as presented at the trial, no law had been broken by the actions of the officers. From jurors' statements it appears they made a careful review of the facts and presented a thoughtful decision based on the law as instructed by the judge. This, however, does not mean that justice, as demanded by the family of Amadou Diallo and the community, occurred.

It is my belief that this justice can occur only when the focus changes from whether a law of the State has been broken to concern about the harm done by the actions of one person against another. This type of justice, restorative justice based on biblical principles of *shalom*, declares that crime causes harm which must be acknowledged and addressed. In the death of Amadou Diallo definite harm has been done, harm which the trial and verdict did not address because the system was not established to address such concerns. The

emerging paradigm of restorative justice does address these concerns and, if allowed to be a part of the process in this and other cases, could lead to a sense of justice having been achieved.

Looking at the harm that was done by the shooting and death of Amadou Diallo opens us up to new ways of thinking about this crime and moves us on to new responses. It is instructive to use the three questions of restorative justice developed by Howard Zehr and, with broad strokes, apply them here.

"What harm was done by the crime?"

Obviously, Amadou Diallo was harmed in that the actions of the police caused his death. His parents and friends were also directly harmed in the loss of a loved one. But in order to see the totality of the harm done we have to broaden our sights. The community in which Amadou Diallo lived also experienced harm. Those who witnessed the killing may continue to have flashbacks to the event. Those who live in the building and have to enter through the bullet-riddled vestibule may be "re-harmed" each time they enter their own homes. And any African-American in the United States may be harmed because of experiencing, once again, the sense that they are not safe in their own country.

But let's broaden the picture even more. Let's look at the police who may really have thought Amadou Diallo had a gun and was going to use it. They may be experiencing a sense of guilt for having taken a person's life under a false presumption. Yet in the moment a decision was necessary and they made one, one that only after the fact did they know to be wrong. And it is probable that their

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facility also has a COG program. The school-based probation officers also assist with COG.

The Employment Education Program is just beginning to expand its services to juveniles. The Employment Education specialist assists clients in getting GEDs, into a training/trade school or with finding a job. Dallas indicates that they have discovered through this program that more than 50% of the offenders do not have high school diplomas and are unemployed making it difficult for them to fulfill court-ordered restitution. The specialist works with employers to keep an eye on the job market and keeps probation officers informed of job openings as well.

The Victim Assistance specialist works with the probation officers in assuring that restitution gets paid. She also works with those victims who contact her with any problems, going with them to court and connecting them to services if necessary.

Following a lot of planning, the mentoring program is just getting underway with its first project in the community center in a YMCA in the southern region of the county. Open Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays from 1 to 7 PM, the program offers pro-social programming and recreation, keeping the youths busy during the peak crime times. Local university students assist with the program areas: anger management, life skills and recreation.

School-based mentoring will begin in the fall. Teams of three adults will work with 10-12 youths in this program which is based on TeamWorks, a program out of Los Angeles. This has led to a new partnership with the school system, one that highlights working together and pooling resources instead of competition.

### Community ownership

Darrell McGibany, Director of Madison County Probation and Court Services Department, sees two things coming out of the new legislation. One, the state is funding new positions, allowing them to develop and expand services. Two,

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# Building Community

In Deschutes County, Oregon the local juvenile justice system is taking the term “building community” literally. There, the Department of Community Justice has teamed up with Habitat for Humanity and private sector donors to allow juvenile offenders the opportunity to construct Habitat for Humanity homes from the ground up.

These young workers are trained in basic carpentry skills and also receive training on the plight of America’s homeless. With a tool box filled with new skills and proper motivation, they team up with community volunteers to build the homes. Dennis Maloney, Director of the Deschutes County Department of Community Justice, refers to this as “service-centered mentoring”.

The Department of Community Justice provides skilled supervisors to ensure the work is completed on schedule and in quality. These supervisors are actually Community Justice Officers, formerly juvenile probation officers. The Department of Community Justice has been converting caseload supervisor-duties to community-building duties over the last several years. Rather than requiring offenders to report to a government center and convince the officers they’re following the rules these officers are stationed in the community working on projects with the youth where they can see the offenders perform on a variety of community-building projects.

One officer can spend virtually hundreds of hours working with up to 40 or more youth during the construction project. Not only does this approach surpass the surveillance factor of any intensive probation effort, but the bond that develops between the officers and the youth is arguably much stronger than any



standard probation officer-probationer relationship. And above all, a disadvantaged family gains the benefit of having their first home.

The community benefits by furthering home ownership, one of the best known community crime prevention strategies.

To make the efforts particularly exciting, private businesses pay for the supplies for the homes. In Deschutes County, Brooks Resources Corporation, one of Bend’s long-standing businesses, provided \$35,000 to build home #1. As more than a hundred people gathered to cheer and weep with joy, the 25 juvenile home builders passed the key from one worker to the next and on to the recipient family. A Brooks Resources representative capped the ceremony with a \$20,000 check representing most of the funds needed for home #2.

Dennis Maloney observed, “This is truly the most rewarding project I have participated in during my 30 years of work in juvenile justice. A family that would not likely own a home gets a home. Juvenile offenders gracefully redeem themselves in their own community. Stipends earned by the youth during their work go to satisfy restitution judgements. Young people once thought only to be a community liability are viewed as resources. And the bond they build with the community offers more safety than any fence or prison wall. I just don’t know how juvenile justice can get any better than this.”

Since the Deschutes County project has gained such popular support, Senator Ron Wyden (D) of Oregon has announced he will seek funds to create a special Habitat for Humanity Juvenile Justice Initiative. ●

For more information on the Deschutes County partnership, call Rich Rozic at the Bend Area Habitat for Humanity at (541) 385-5387 or Dave Holmes, manager of the Community Justice Corps at (541) 617-3339.

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it called for development of local juvenile justice councils.

Madison County’s council, with several meetings under its belt already, is getting the community together to focus on issues of crime prevention as well as intervention. McGibany believes the council will be a positive proactive force in putting community issues before the state legislature. The satellite offices have also moved the probation department closer to other community agencies allowing for new daily contacts.

The new juvenile justice law in Illinois is offering a new direction for juvenile justice agencies through its emphasis on balanced and restorative justice. The prognosis seems good that it will also offer a greater sense of justice, accountability and healing for all involved with juvenile crime. ●

defense attorneys, working under the rules of our criminal justice system, would not allow them to express any remorse that they may feel directly to the family of Mr. Diallo.

We can continue to broaden the picture by looking at the harm done to the police officers' families who have their own anguish and, possibly, conflicting emotions to deal with, and to their colleagues who may now be second guessing themselves every time they think about drawing their guns. When will they make a similar bad decision?

The two other restorative justice questions are, "What needs to be done to repair the harm?" and "Who is responsible for repairing it?" Many possibilities come to mind. Mr. Diallo's family needs support at this time from friends and from counselors who can help them work through their grief. They may also need financial assistance in obtaining such assistance.

An apology could be made by the police officers to Amadou Diallo's family, perhaps given directly during a victim-offender mediation session, should the family wish to participate, or through a written letter. However, the system continues to grind on and the four police officers are, no doubt, prevented from doing this lest it be held against them in the next phase of civil trials and internal police investigations. The Chief of Police and the Mayor of New York City could lead the way through apologies to the family and by promising better training for all police officers regarding responses to such situations.

New York City could also offer support and counseling for all those who witnessed the event and are traumatized by it. The city could work with the tenants in Amadou Diallo's building to discover what they need to have done with the bullet-riddled vestibule to make living there tenable once again and then assist the landlord in making any necessary repairs.

The families of the police officers need support during this time. Not support that tells them that the officers are being railroaded and misused but that helps them to acknowledge what actually happened and then learn to live with those facts.

This is just a short list of ways in which the harm caused by this event could be addressed. There are many more; the only limit is the boundaries we all too often put on our thinking.

Our criminal justice system has made its determination in this case. It is now time for the search for true justice to be made. The tear in the fabric of society caused by the shooting of Amadou Diallo will remain for the individuals directly involved, and for society as a whole, unless actions are taken to address the true issues of justice by seeking ways to repair the reality of the harm that has been done. The biblical witness declares that justice can, indeed, roll down like water.

Ask yourself the three questions of restorative justice. Then ask yourself what your part in this restorative system is to be. And then resolve to take action to help bring the peace of *shalom* into your community. ●

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## Upcoming Events

To have your event listed, send information to:  
*Kaleidoscope*, 718 Peranna Place, Charlotte, NC 28211 or  
email - [evelynhrj@aol.com](mailto:evelynhrj@aol.com)

**15th National Conference on Preventing Crime in the Black Community** - May 31-June 3 in Miami, Florida Contact Shirley Richardson at 305-795-2325.

**National Organization for Victim Assistance (NOVA) Conference** - July 30-August 4 in Miami Beach, FL. Contact Christopher Greenslade at 843-577-8960.

**The Victim Offender Mediation Association's (VOMA) 17th Annual International Training Institute and Conference** - September 12-16 at the Ramada Plaza West (soon to be Sheraton Minneapolis West) in Minnetonka, MN. Theme: "Innovative Practices in Victim Offender Mediation and Conferencing." The Institute and Conference will present the leaders and innovators in the areas of Restorative Justice practices including VOM, conferencing and circles. Check out their website for details: <[www.voma.org](http://www.voma.org)>

**4th International Conference on Restorative Justice for Juveniles** - October 1-4 in Tübingen, Germany. Cost (if registered by May 31): \$220 (\$250 with banquet). Contact: phone: +49-(0) 7071-2972931; fax: +49-(0)-7071-65104; email: [restorative.justice@uni-tuebingen.de](mailto:restorative.justice@uni-tuebingen.de); website: <http://www.ifk.jura.uni-tuebingen.de/restjust/>



## On the Net: Websites of Interest

**The Balanced and Restorative Justice Project's** website is at <<http://www.fau.edu/divdept/caupa/cji>>

**National Restorative Justice Trainers' Clearinghouse website:** <<http://www.fau.edu/divdept/caupa/cji/RJClear/>>

**The Colorado Forum on Community and Restorative Justice** was formed approximately 3 years ago. Visit their web site at <<http://clem.msced.edu/~neesii/7-Forum.htm>> which tells about the Forum and has links to resources concerning community and restorative justice.

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