

# Building System Actor Buy-In for Restorative Justice

National Center on Restorative Justice (NCORJ)



**CVIPI**  
Community Based Violence Intervention  
and Prevention Initiative

**OJJDP** Office of Juvenile Justice  
and Delinquency Prevention

**NIJ** National Institute  
of Justice  
STRENGTHEN SCIENCE. ADVANCE JUSTICE.

Office for Victims of Crime  
**OVC**



**BJA**  
Bureau of Justice Assistance  
U.S. Department of Justice

## Definition of Restorative Justice

"Restorative justice is a way to prevent or respond to harm in a community with an emphasis on healing, social support, and active accountability. RJ includes a variety of practices, with many rooted in indigenous and religious traditions. Some practices help prevent harm by helping people build relationships and strengthen communities. Other practices respond to harm by helping to clearly identify harms, needs, and solutions through an inclusive and collaborative decision-making process." — David Karp, Director of the University of San Diego Center for RJ

### BENEFITS OF RESTORATIVE JUSTICE PRACTICES



widespread public support for restorative alternatives



Cost-effective



higher victim satisfaction ratings



reduction in recidivism

## CHANGING OUR APPROACH

### Criminal Justice

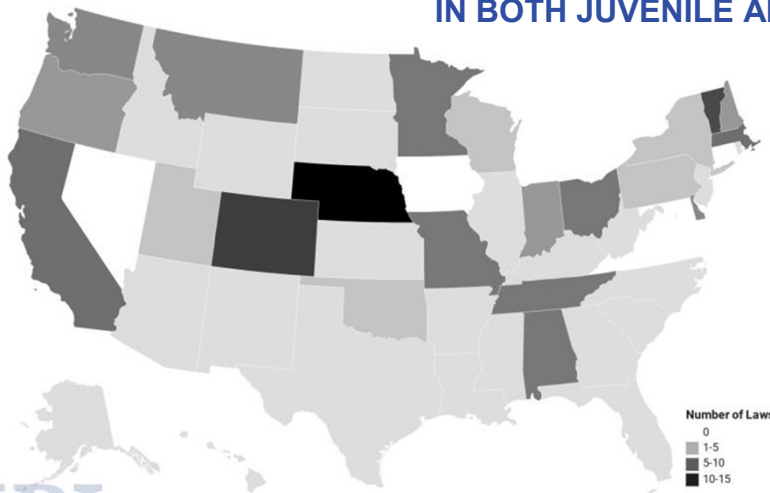
- What laws have been broken?
- Who did it?
- What do they deserve?

### Restorative Justice

- Who has been hurt?
- What are their needs?
- Whose obligation is it to repair the harm (to the extent possible)?

*Howard Zehr, Little Book of Restorative Justice, pg. 21*

## LEGALIZATION OF RESTORATIVE JUSTICE IN BOTH JUVENILE AND ADULT CRIMINAL SYSTEMS



**"As of July 2020, 46 jurisdictions have codified 'restorative justice' into their juvenile and/or adult criminal justice systems... these jurisdictions include 45 states and the District of Columbia for a total of 264 laws."**

*González, Thalia, The State of Restorative Justice in American Criminal Law (December 20, 2020). Wisconsin Law Review, 2020, Issue 6, Available at SSRN: <https://ssrn.com/abstract=3761531>.*

The color gradient of the states ranges from no presence in state law (white) to fifteen discrete laws (black).

# Building System Actor Buy-In for Restorative Justice

## Panelists



**Avery Arrington**

Assistant Director  
National Center on  
Restorative Justice



**Tristen Edwards**

Lead Attorney for  
Restorative Justice,  
Metropolitan Public  
Defender



**Francisco  
"Paco" Carbajal**

Commissioner for  
Superior Court of  
California San Diego  
Juvenile Justice  
Commission & Founder  
of Peace, Anger, Love



**Dr. Elena Quintana**

Executive Director, Institute on  
Public Safety and Social  
Justice  
Adler University



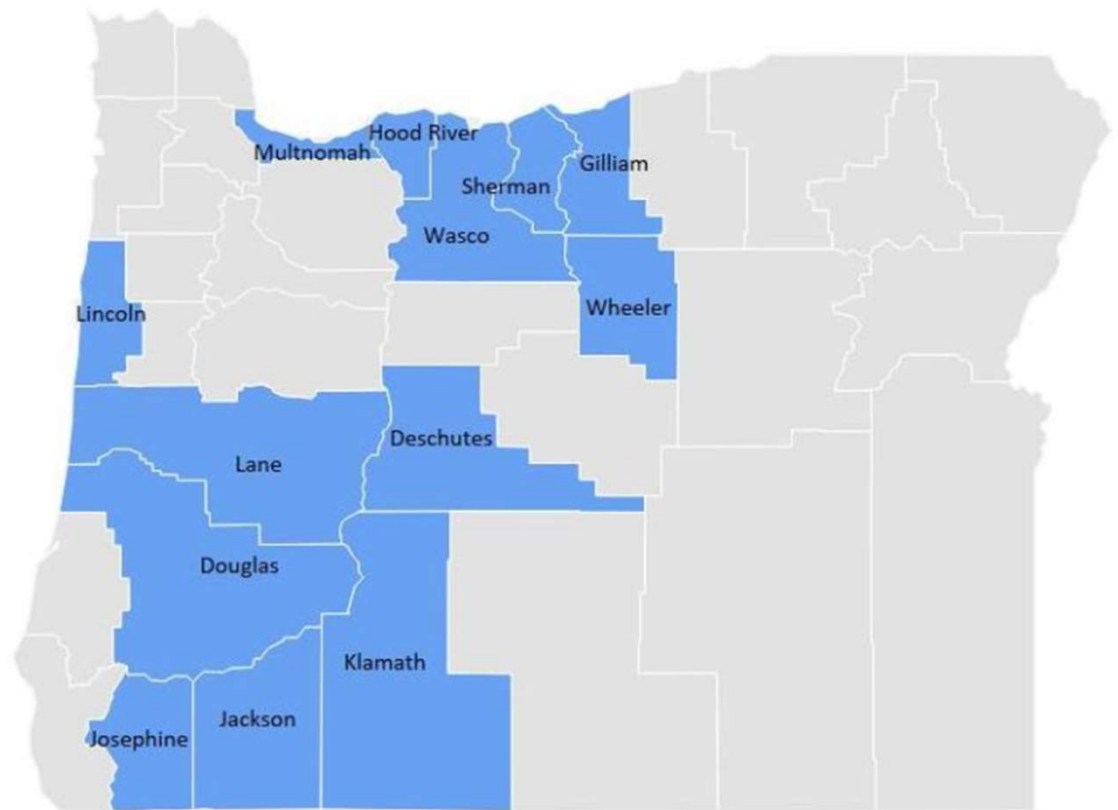
**Demarris Evans**

Senior Assistant  
District Attorney,  
Alameda County District  
Attorney's Office

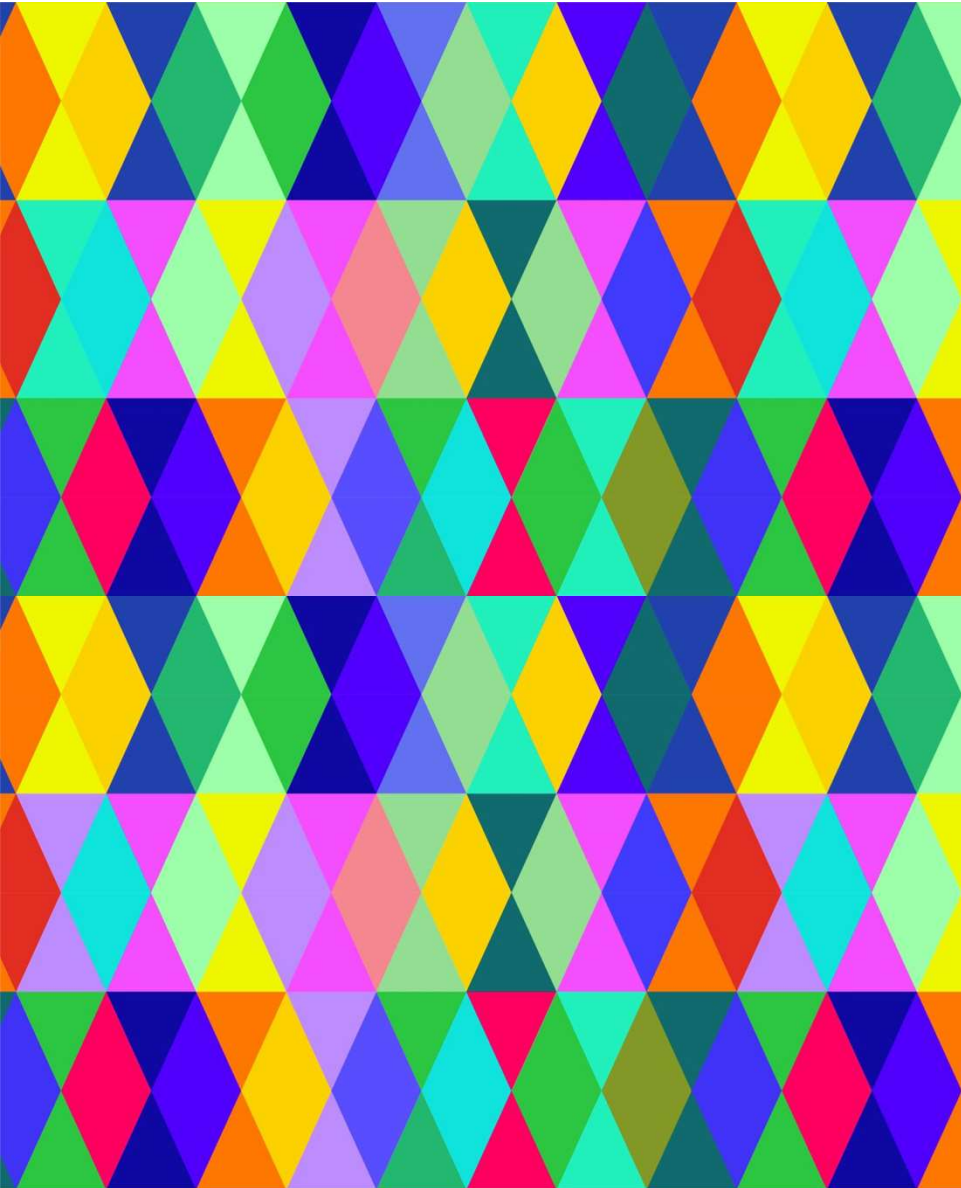


# Oregon Restorative Justice Grant Program

- ❖ Center for Dialogue and Resolution
- ❖ Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians
- ❖ Conflict Artistry
- ❖ Deschutes' Emerging Adults Program
- ❖ Lutheran Community Services Northwest
- ❖ Restorative Roots Project
- ❖ Six Rivers Dispute Resolution Center
- ❖ Resolve Dispute Resolution Center



**CVIPI**  
Community Based Violence Intervention  
and Prevention Initiative



# System & Community

Coming Together for  
Restorative Justice

Elena Quintana, Ph.D.  
Adler University



# Non-Negotiables of RJ

- When we are accountable to each other, we live in right relationship with each other
- Accountability is on the part of not just the individual, but the environment they are in
- Democracy/One person One voice
- Everyone deserves dignity and respect
- Everyone deserves support and positive community in which to live and heal



# Important Considerations

- Neutral, shared training
- Meet people where they are
- Validate the necessity for both system and community collaborators
- Ensure humanity is centered for everyone
- Address structural equity and equality
- Time, resources, and access to decision making



# More Important Considerations

- Help everyone to agree upon non-negotiables
- Many systems are hierarchical, which is antithetical to restorative justice
- Equality of participation
- Language/speech (e.g. use of titles)
- Process
- Support



# Building System Actor Buy-In for Restorative Justice

## Panelists



**Avery Arrington**

Assistant Director  
National Center on  
Restorative Justice



**Tristen Edwards**

Lead Attorney for  
Restorative Justice,  
Metropolitan Public  
Defender



**Francisco  
"Paco" Carbajal**

Commissioner for  
Superior Court of  
California San Diego  
Juvenile Justice  
Commission & Founder  
of Peace, Anger, Love



**Dr. Elena Quintana**

Executive Director, Institute on  
Public Safety and Social  
Justice  
Adler University



**Demarris Evans**

Senior Assistant  
District Attorney,  
Alameda County District  
Attorney's Office



*Thank You!*

**PLEASE CONTACT US & VISIT OUR WEBSITES**

**[tedwards@mpdlaw.com](mailto:tedwards@mpdlaw.com)**

**[peaceangerlove.org](http://peaceangerlove.org)**

**[equinatana@adler.edu](mailto:equinatana@adler.edu)**

**[demarris.evans@acgov.org](mailto:demarris.evans@acgov.org)**

**[ncorj.org](http://ncorj.org)**



**CVIPI**

Community Based Violence Intervention  
and Prevention Initiative

# Questions & Answers



