

THE RESTORATIVE REVIEW



The monthly newsletter of the Hartford Community Restorative Justice Center

HARTFORD SUPPORT SYSTEMS

WHAT'S NEW

UPCOMING EVENTS
.....

QUOTE OF THE MONTH
.....

BOARD UPDATES
.....

HARTFORD SUPPORTS

CoSA

We are looking for folks interested in participating in a Circle of Support and Accountability. You could be a part of a crucial and transformative process for someone reentering the community post-incarceration.

Rep Panel

We have a Rep Panel starting **May 15th at 5:00pm** that needs volunteers.

Please reach out to staff at the center if you would like to join either a Panel or CoSA.

Upcoming Events

Vermont RJ Volunteer Conference

June 7th at the Lake Morey Resort in Fairlee

The biggest gathering of RJ volunteers in the state is taking place in just a month! This is an amazing opportunity to connect and learn with community members around the state who are invested in restorative justice. The conference will feature a lineup of engaging workshops, circle discussions and opportunities to learn about the 2-year VT Restorative Justice Equity through Data, Justice, Inclusion and Education Initiative (VT EDJIE). Volunteers can register by clicking the button at the bottom of this newsletter or at this link:

<https://tinyurl.com/VTRJConference-2024>.

Quote of the Month

“Of special concern to restorative justice are the needs of crime victims that are not being adequately met by the criminal justice system. Victims often feel ignored, neglected, or even abused by the justice process. This results in part from the legal definition of crime, which does not include victims. Crime is defined as against the state, so the state takes the place of the victims. Yet victims often have a number of specific needs from the justice process.”

- Howard Zehr -

The Little Book of Restorative Justice

We’ve been hosting a variety of events at the Justice Center, such as game nights, mindfulness classes, and community

conversations. We want to hear from you! What do you like? What events would you like to see?



Look at what the board committees are working on, and see if you'd like to get involved! There are plenty of interesting projects that could use your help.

Housing

The Housing Committee is reviewing the program contract for housing and talking about expectations for program participants.

Marketing & Development

The Marketing & Development committee is working on summer fundraising and long-term marketing strategy.

Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion

The DEI committee is collecting equity data and working on a language access plan for clients who may not speak English.

We are asking for help with the house!

As many of our community members know we recently purchased a house so we could have long-term stability for our transitional housing program. We are currently working on renovations for the building and a strategic plan for paying off the Community Loan Fund loan that we received. We need help with this project! Come join us.

March Updates

We've been up to a lot at the center this past month! In March we:

- Held a garden meeting at the HCRJC garden and with help from John F. got the boxes ready for planting.
- Hosted a community conversation about forgiveness that was attended by community members, program participants, and staff.
- Played games, snacked, and built community at our 8th game night.
- Facilitated 11 ongoing Rep Panels, 3 community support circles, and 3 CoSAs.

Hartford Support Systems

We work regularly with individuals who need access to different community supports to get their needs met. Rep Panel and CoSA volunteers have expressed that having a better understanding of the resources available to our program participants would be helpful. Here is a short breakdown of some (not all) of the resources available to the folks we work with.

Health Services

Good Neighbor Health Clinic: Provides free health care to individuals who are uninsured or on Medicaid.

Clara Martin: Provides mental health programming, substance use programs, and 24hr emergency support.

HCRS: Provides mental health programming and substance use programs with sliding scale fees



Housing

Twin Pines: Provides subsidized, long-term housing across the Upper Valley.

The Haven: Provides short term shelters as well as as housing caseworkers to help individuals find vouchers.

Food

United Methodist Church: This White River Junction church has a 24/7 food pantry by the front door.

The Haven: The temporary location of the Haven food pantry is just up the road from the justice center! individuals can get a box of food or individual meals.

