

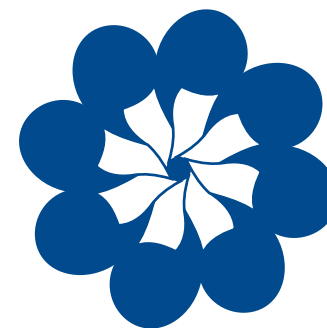
“ I didn't realize that what I did affected
so many people. I'm sorry, and I want
to make things better. ”

—Youth Client


GREATER BARRE
COMMUNITY
JUSTICE
CENTER
20 Auditorium Hill, Civic Center
Barre, VT 05641

GREATER BARRE COMMUNITY JUSTICE CENTER

*Creating understanding
and resolution together*



A community organization
that helps people to:

- Resolve conflicts
- Listen to victims
- Repair harm
- Address community issues

20 Auditorium Hill, Civic Center
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www.gbcjc.org

THE MISSION of the GREATER BARRE COMMUNITY JUSTICE CENTER is to develop and facilitate restorative justice and conflict resolution programs and practices in the greater Barre community.

What is Restorative Justice?

Restorative Justice is a philosophy that views crime as a violation of people and relationships. Restorative Justice takes different forms, recognizing that:

- Crime harms the whole community
- Harm creates obligations
- Justice involves victims, offenders and community members to meet needs and identify responsibilities in an effort to make things right

How Does the Victim Benefit?

Victims benefit by being placed at the center of the process and having their needs acknowledged and considered (directly and through referral).

Sometimes a victim is interested in a safe and facilitated dialogue with the offender to:

- Explain how they were harmed
- Get answers to their questions
- State what they need the offender to do to make amends

“I’ve never experienced anything like this before. It felt good to get my questions answered and tell how the crime affected my family and me.”

—Victim in a Community Conference

How Does the Community Benefit?

Through the use of restorative justice and conflict management, the Justice Center:

- Addresses crime as a community problem
- Provides training to community members to deliver services
- Helps people address conflict
- Enables citizens to discuss contentious issues.

“I gain a sense of being part of a broader, more diverse community”

—Reparative Board Member

What Programs and Activities Does the Justice Center Offer?

- Restorative processes such as Reparative Boards, Conferences and Circles
- Mediation for community and neighborhood disputes
- Community Forums for local issues and concerns
- Trainings in conflict resolution, communication skills, and restorative justice

“I would recommend it to others that cannot resolve issues by themselves. I wish we had done the mediation sooner because I missed a lot of time with my friend.”

—Participant in Mediation

“As a board member you get to see the power of a sincere apology.”

—Reparative Board Member

How Can I Get Involved?

The whole community improves when everyone is given a chance to hear each other. Here are a few options:

- Pass this brochure on to an interested party
- Volunteer to deliver services
- Attend a restorative justice training
- Refer disputing parties
- Join a Reparative Board
- Join our Citizen Advisory Board
- Make a donation

Contact the Greater Barre Community Justice Center to arrange services, attend a training, or find out more about how restorative justice can work to create understanding and resolution.

“The meeting helped people to understand others’ perspectives, emotions, and misunderstandings. It helped to calm down the discourse and see people on opposing sides as fellow citizens who wanted the strike to end as much as they did.”

—Community Forum Participant

“The process allowed people a fair opportunity to speak and it helped people speak who would not have done so otherwise.”

—Circle Process Participant

“I learned about how to handle conflict in a more positive way and to react and respond differently.”

—Communication Skills Training Participant