Benefits of Membership

Whether your interest in restorative justice is professional, academic, or personal, membership in the MORJC has much to offer you. Members enjoy:

- Networking with others who share an interest in restorative justice in Missouri from a variety of disciplines and areas,
- Email updates with information on events, resources, funding, and other restorative justice-related items,
- Opportunities to work with other professionals in shaping policy and practice,
- A 25% discount for MORJC-sponsored conferences and trainings,
- Priority registration for trainings and conferences, with limited enrollment,
- Access to shared knowledge and resources on restorative justice programs in Missouri and elsewhere,
- Active participation in MORJC governance, decision-making, and much more.

Your membership will also help support the Missouri Restorative Justice Coalition's Mission to create safe and peaceful communities in Missouri.

What is Restorative Justice?

Restorative justice is an evolving response to harm that respects the dignity and equality of each person, builds understanding, and promotes social harmony through the healing of victims, offenders, and communities.

Restorative approaches:

enable those affected by crime to openly share their feelings and experiences while aiming to address their needs.

- provide an opportunity for victims to have a voice in the process, obtain reparations, and feel safer;
- allow offenders to gain insight into the causes and effects of their behavior and to take responsibility in a meaningful way; and
- enable communities to understand the underlying causes of crime, to promote community well-being and to prevent crime.

Restorative justice gives rise to a range of measures that are flexible in their adaptation to established criminal justice systems. Examples of restorative justice programs include:

- Victim-Offender Dialogue or Mediation
- Family Group Conferencing,
- Community Accountability Boards,
- Impact of Crime on Victims Classes,
- Restorative Discipline in Schools,
- Circle Sentencing, and
- Victim Impact Panels, among others.

Engaging in a restorative justice practice has been shown to lead to greater victim satisfaction, lower offender recidivism, and reduced costs.

(Partially adapted from the United Nation's "Basic Principles on the Use of Restorative Justice Programmes in Criminal Matters."

"The coalition has been critical in helping our Center conceptualize how restorative justice fits within our mission and by providing support in helping us develop both our juvenile and adult victim offender mediation programs."

—Charlene Berquist Ph.D., Center for Dispute Resolution, Missouri State University

Missouri Restorative Justice Coalition

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http://associations.missouristate.edu/morjc/
The Coalition has been able to encourage and support restorative justice efforts in numerous places throughout Missouri.

—Rev. Harold Johnson, United Methodist Church (Ret.)

Where We're Going

The Coalition has made great strides, but much more work is yet to be done!

Ongoing projects include:

• Continued work with adult court stakeholders to promote the use of restorative justice in adult courts
• Increasing the number of circuits that utilize Victim Offender Dialogue and Mediation and other restorative practices
• Increasing the number of school-based restorative discipline projects
• Implementing restorative justice programs at the community level across the state
• Educating both the public and policy-makers about restorative justice principles, programs, and benefits
• Increasing the number of training and conference offerings

Who Should Join the MORJC?

Membership in the MORJC will benefit anyone who is engaged in or who supports restorative principles. Members include:

• Conflict management practitioners
• Justice system professionals
• Educators/teachers/students
• Law enforcement
• Community organizers
• Academics/researchers
• Members of faith communities
• Social workers
• Victim advocates
• Interested individuals

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Who We Are

The Missouri Restorative Justice Coalition is a group of stakeholders interested in promoting restorative justice in Missouri. This group was convened to implement the Missouri Restorative Justice Initiative in 2005. The Initiative was sponsored by the Center for Women in Transition (www.cwitstl.org). The Initiative has now been completed and the Coalition has become a nonprofit membership organization that will continue to promote restorative justice in the state.

What We've Done

Since 2005, the MORJC has played a major role through education, training, and advocacy in the spread of restorative justice knowledge and practice in the state of Missouri. To date:

• Numerous trainings and conferences in restorative practices have been conducted.
• 16 juvenile courts in the state are utilizing restorative justice principles.
• The Department of Corrections has implemented several restorative justice programs.
• Several school districts in Missouri have incorporated restorative justice practices into their curricula and discipline procedures.
• Several adult courts have implemented restorative programs, such as Victim Impact Panels and Victim Offender Dialogue or Mediation.

Join Today!

Please complete this form to join the MORJC.

Name: ____________________________________

Name of Organization:_______________________

__________________________________________

Address of Individual or Organization:________________________

__________________________________________

Phone:____________________________________

Fax: ______________________________________

Email:_____________________________________

Type of membership (circle one):

• Individual ($40)               • Student ($15)
• Organizational ($125)*

*Organizational members are allowed 3 voting members.

If joining as an organization, please provide the contact information (names, addresses, phone, fax, and e-mail) for 3 organizational representatives:

1. ______________________________________

________________________________________

2. ______________________________________

________________________________________

3. ______________________________________

________________________________________

Please send your annual membership payment by check or money order to:

MORJC, c/o Missouri State - CDR,
901 S. National, Springfield MO 65897 or join online at http://associations.missouristate.edu/morjc/