

2016 FGDM Conference
Workshop Outline
Presenters: Elizabeth Smull and Jerry Bradley

Merging FGDM and Juvenile Justice in Restorative Reporting Centers: A Creative Approach to Engaging Families

Presentation Summary:

This workshop will focus on how Community Service Foundation (CSF Buxmont) incorporates FGDM into their community based programming. We will look specifically at The Restorative Reporting Center, which involves youth from juvenile justice. We will share how this program uses a restorative framework by practicing FGDM principles for the life of the case, creating a partnership with families, juvenile justice, and community organizations.

Learning objectives:

- To understand the fundamental hypothesis of restorative practices and how it relates to FGDM.
- To explain what restorative practices is and the ways in which family engagement practices are restorative.
- To discuss the importance of engaging, collaborating and empowering families and support systems in every level of contact.
- To demonstrate how CSF/Buxmont are incorporating FGDM principles within their community based programming.

Agenda:

- Reflection
 - Ask participants to share one thing they appreciate about the families they work with and share with the larger group.
 - “The family is the cornerstone of our society. More than any other force it shapes the attitude, the hopes, the ambitions, and the values of the child. And when the family collapses it is the children that are usually damaged. When it happens on a massive scale the community itself is crippled. So, unless we work to strengthen the family, to create conditions under which most parents will stay together, all the rest — schools, playgrounds, and public assistance, and private concern — will never be enough.”
-Lyndon Baines Johnson
 - Ask participants to get with a partner and reflect on the quote.
- The Restorative Framework (refer to handout *Defining Restorative*)
 - An overview of the Restorative Practices Framework

- Social Discipline Window
 - The fundamental hypotheses of restorative practices.
 - The Aim of restorative practices
 - Short activity explaining the SDW and how it relates to families
 - Fair Process
 - Short activity demonstrating Fair Process and how it relates to engaging families
 - Psychology of Affect
 - Short activity and explanation of how shame can be a barrier with working with families, and ways to help families identify shame moments and work through through those moments.
 - The Restorative Practices Continuum
 - Explain the continuum and how family engagement occurs along each point of the continuum of practice.
 - Demonstrate the informal practices through small group activities.
 - Explain how FGDM is a restorative practice
 - Share this quote and ask participants to reflect
 - “I do not believe that professionals can give power to families – that is not the basis of the approach. Rather, families will take power and become “power-full” when professionals create the right conditions for this to occur”
 - -Mike Doolan Former Chief Social Worker for the New Zealand Government
 - Empowerment exercise- This will get participants talking about ways they have been empowered in their lives and how to apply that to the families they work with.
 - Review the SDW and RP continuum and tie back the empowerment practices.
- Program description of the Restorative Reporting Center (refer to program descriptions)
 - Discuss the history of the RRC and the partnership with Bucks Juvenile Probation and Community Service Foundation Buxmont Academy
 - Take participants through the requirements of the program.
 - An overview of the program and how FGDM is used formally as well as how the principles of the FGDM are used for the life of the case.
 - Discuss intake process, family nights, restorative interviewing, repairing harm within the family systems and discharge.
 - Use the restorative practices framework to put this in context as a guide.