

Marathon County Restorative Justice Programs

...are overseen by an advisory board of community members and run by staff and volunteers who seek to provide services that increase offender accountability and divert youth from further justice involvement; increase resources to the youth and their families to reduce risk and build protective factors; and to provide important assistance and restitution to crime victims. Victims of crime are central to the process and are given a voice to express their thoughts and feelings as to how they have been affected. They become a part of the judicial process by being able to construct an agreement with the offender as to how the offender will make up for their wrongdoing.

Referral Sources include municipal and circuit courts, Marathon County Department of Social Services, law enforcement, schools, victims, and parents. Typical cases include theft, shoplifting, damage to property, and disorderly conduct.



Marathon County
Restorative Justice Program

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A program of Goodwill NCW 

*A vision for restoring
victims, offenders, families
and communities.*

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Restorative Programming



Victim-Offender Conferencing (VOC)

...is a process which provides interested victims of crime the opportunity to meet the offenders in a safe and structured setting, with the goal of holding the offenders directly account-

able for their behavior while providing important assistance and compensation to the victim. With the assistance of a trained facilitator, the victim is able to let the offender know how the crime affected him or her, receive answers to questions they may have, and be directly involved in developing a restitution plan for the offender to be accountable for the losses incurred.

The offenders are able to take direct responsibility for their behavior, learn the full impact of what they did, and if appropriate, develop an agreement for making amends to the person(s) they violated.

Family Group Conferencing (FGC)

...provides the opportunity for families to meet in a setting mediated by a trained facilitator. Family Group Conferencing is similar to Victim-Offender Conferencing in that it discusses the harm caused by the youthful offender's actions. Typical referrals for FGC are "so called" victimless crimes (i.e. underage drinking, drug use, underage driving, speeding, etc.); however, these crimes have the capability of causing great harm and families desire a structured way to come up with an agreement for future behaviors.

Youth Educational Shoplifting Prevention Program (YES)



...assists youth in identifying the feelings, thoughts and actions that led them to shoplift and helps them make better choices in the future. The program was designed by the National Association of

Shoplifting Prevention to reduce shoplifter recidivism and to help prevent further penetration into the criminal justice system. Whether it is a youth's first offense or repeat offense, and whether they stole a \$50.00 sweater or a 50 cent candy bar, youth will benefit from the comprehensive education provided by the YES Program. (Cost for curriculum - \$40.00)

Youth Restitution Project & Victim Assistance Trust Fund

...provides for youth without the resources to pay back their victims, the ability to work for compensation. Once a youth has completed a designated amount of hours in service to the community, a donation equivalent to the victim's loss in the crime will be given to the victim from a Victim Assistance Trust Fund. Citizens are able to donate toward this trust fund. Youth referred to the program will need to have their family provide information concerning income levels or other hardship to qualify.

