

What is Restorative Justice?

Restorative Justice brings people together to listen and talk about the harm caused when someone commits a crime. People talk about:

- What happened,
- Who was impacted, and
- What must be done to move forward or repair harm?

RJFD is completely **voluntary**. The goal is to provide an opportunity for people to engage in difficult conversations and deepen their understanding.



How to get started?

Set aside **15 - 30 minutes** and call the Dispute Resolution Center.

We are open:*

- **Monday - Friday**
- **Between 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.**

One of our Intake Specialists will answer any questions & help you decide if Restorative Justice is the right fit for you.

If an Intake Specialist is unavailable, please leave a detailed message and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

Your conversation with us is **completely confidential** & we will not share any details of what you say with the other party.

PO Box 6184
Olympia, WA 98507



(360) 956-1155



MediateThurston.org



Info@mediatethurston.org

* We are not a walk-in center. Please call us if you need services or would like to make an appointment



Dispute Resolution Center
OF THURSTON COUNTY

Restorative Justice Facilitated Dialogue



◀ **LEARN MORE
ABOUT RJFD!**

What are the benefits of participating?

Restorative Justice gives people a space to talk and process, share information, and gain understanding about what happened. A face-to-face dialogue can help people move forward.

Facilitators keep the conversation on track, and they make sure the space is safe for all participants to have a chance to heal harm caused by crime and other behaviors.

“I have had the chance to experience closure and reestablish a sense of personal power/safety.”

— RJFD participant

“This was a great experience. It meant a lot to be able to talk with the participant and let them know I was sorry for what I did, and that I am doing my best to change. Thanks for giving me the opportunity.”

— RJFD participant

How does it work?

1) Referral:

We work with people involved in the criminal justice system. The Thurston County Superior Court refers people to the DRC who are interested in a Restorative Justice dialogue. If you are not involved with the Superior Court, we may still be able to help—just reach out to us.

RJFD is **entirely voluntary and separate from the court**, and participation has no direct impact on sentencing.

2) Intake:

A DRC staff person will call you to **explain the process**, to listen to your reasons for wanting to participate, and to assess fit for Restorative Justice. All participants must be willing to act in good faith—a willingness to listen, share information, and take in another perspective.

3) Preparation:

RJFD facilitators meet with you individually first before participants talk to each other. This meeting takes about one hour.

Facilitators listen to learn about your goals, and to coach you to help you prepare for a conversation with the other participant.

4) Face-to-face dialogue:

You meet with other participant(s) for a face-to-face meeting* guided by the facilitators. This meeting takes about 3 hours.

Participants are given the chance to talk about **what happened**, who was impacted, **and what should be done** to repair the harm caused. Together, you decide how to repair the harm caused. You also decide if you want to write any decisions into a written agreement.

* We offer both in-person or online services.

