



2024 Annual Report

The Center for Restorative Justice (CRJ) has been an integral part of Bennington County's criminal and juvenile justice systems for over forty years. As each year passes and our community evolves, so does CRJ's growth and impact on Bennington County.

This past year, over 1,300 Bennington County individuals were served in one of CRJ's 15 programs. CRJ's programs are based on the principles of restorative justice, bringing together those most affected by an incident—victims, community members, family—holding the offender accountable for making amends and repairing the harm caused.

CRJ's program offerings have grown over the past 40 years in response to the increased need to focus on public safety and to strengthen public/private partnerships to address the community's ever-changing needs. Growing from a single-program Court Diversion agency in the early 1980's to one now providing a full continuum of services ranging from assisting students to overcome barriers leading to truancy, supporting at-risk teens to secure employment, helping drivers with suspended licenses to get reinstated, to helping individuals successfully reenter the community from incarceration, CRJ is considered the model program in Vermont for full-service community justice programming. Please visit CRJ's web site www.bcrj.org for a full listing of the agency's programs and services.

Town support is essential in creating a true restorative community. With your town's support, CRJ is able to continue the important work of strengthening communities, holding people accountable, empowering victims, and supporting individuals to become positive members of the community. Thank you very much for your continued partnership and support.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Leitha Cipriano

Executive Director- Center for Restorative Justice