



Treasure State Correctional Training Center STATE OF MONTANA

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Treasure State Correctional Training Center
Information Request on Restorative Justice

1. ***What is the official name of your program and its mission goals and objectives?***
 - A. Program name: Treasure State Correctional Training Center
Mission: Treasure State Correctional Training Center promotes the mission of the Adult Community Corrections Division by inspiring offenders to have courage to change by using effective evidence based programming including victim impact, restorative justice principles and professional staff to successfully reintegrate offenders to society to earn the trust of the citizens of Montana.
 - B. Restorative justice program name: Treasure State Correctional Training Center Victim Impact Group
Program goals and objectives:
 1. Increase offender accountability for criminal actions
 2. Increase offenders' emotional connection to victims and the community.
 3. Help offenders identify who else is affected (ripple effect) by the offender crime and how.
 4. Instill in offenders self motivation to never victimize again.
 5. Provide a forum for victims for share their stories and influence offender behavior.
2. ***How is the program staffed (including volunteers) ?***
 - A. The Victim Impact Group is staffed by one paid staff facilitator who also has other assigned duties as a drill instructor. Sixty percent of his time is spent as facilitator.
 - B. The victim impact panel has three primary volunteer facilitators who coordinate and schedule at least two speakers for each panel. Panels are conducted every six weeks. We have about eight active speakers.
3. ***How is the program funded? How much and from whom?***
 - A. The annual wage-and-benefits package for the staffer's time spent on facilitating victim impact panels is \$28,468.
 - B. All program money comes from the general fund.
 - C. Volunteer facilitators and speakers are not paid for their time, however, they are reimbursed for mileage and a meal from boot camp funds. There is no line item in the budget for this reimbursement. Money has to be found in other areas to cover mileage and meals for volunteers.

4. What are the basic components of the program... i.e. how does it work?

- A. In May 2011, the boot camp adopted a standardized national victim impact curriculum released by the U.S. Department of Justice Office for Victims of Crime . The original curriculum and accompanying video clips had become outdated. The curriculum covers property crime, assault, robbery, hate and bias, gang violence, sexual assault, child abuse and neglect, domestic violence, drunk and impaired driving, and homicide.

What is the premise of the program?

Victims' voices and the "power of the personal story" reinforce the curriculum content. Offenders know they have been found guilty of a crime and that their behavior was against the law. Some may even acknowledge that they have caused harm, but most offenders focus only on how the crime has affected them. What they need to understand and to acknowledge, however, is exactly how their actions have harmed victims, victims' families, and their communities. Without empathy for the people they have hurt and remorse for their actions, offenders are likely to repeat their victimizing behaviors.

What are its basic precepts?

- The focus is on victims and the impact of crime on them.
- Victims' personal experiences are the centerpiece of the program.
- Victims deserve to have their rights enforced.
- Victims deserve to have a voice.
- Anyone can become a victim of crime.
- Victimization has a "domino" or a "ripple" effect, moving beyond the actual victim to family members, co-victims, and the community as a whole.
- There are no victims who deserve to be harmed or hurt.
- Victims are hurt in physical, emotional, financial, and religious/spiritual ways.
- The program provides offenders with the opportunity to change their thinking and their behavior.
- Offenders have an obligation to make amends to their victims, directly and indirectly.

What is the program content?

- I. Introduction
- II. Class contract
- III. Goals and objectives
- IV. Program outline
 - A. Phase 1: Units 3,4,5
 1. Week 1-introduction to victim impact, Unit 3: property crime
 2. Week 2-Unit 4: assault
 3. Week 3-Unit 5: robbery
 - B. Phase 2: Units 6,7,8
 1. Week 4-Unit 6: hate and bias
 2. Week 5-Unit 7: gang crime
 3. Week 6-Unit 8: sexual assault
 - C. Phase 3: Units 9, 10, 11
 1. Week 7-Unit 9: child abuse and neglect
 2. Week 8-Unit 10: domestic violence
 3. Week 9-Unit 11: drunken and impaired driving
 - D. Phase 4:Units (drug dealing) added unit 12, 13
 1. Week 9-added drug dealing unit
 2. Week 10-Unit 12: homicide
 3. Week 11-Unit 13: making amends
- V. Victim impact panel
- VI. Group assignment tracking form

- VII. Group discipline
- VIII. Basic communication skills
- IX. Criteria for useful feedback

B. Community work programs are also part of the restorative justice program at the boot camp and Great Falls aftercare. (Great Falls aftercare is the second part of boot camp program and is a 90-day, re-entry- based program at the Great Falls Prerelease Center that reintegrates booters (boot camp graduates) into the community.) Since 1997, the boot camp has worked on a community service project for Deer Lodge that has provided over 200 cords of cut and split wood per year to the community. The boot camp has ongoing community work projects in Deer Lodge to include street sweeping, work at a church and fairgrounds maintenance. Community work details are a way for booters to give back to the community. Every year, community service projects are done by the booters housed in Great Falls aftercare. Booters performed 27,498 community service hours in 2010. Many of the agencies assisted were non-profit organizations in Cascade County and the DOC.

5. *How many offenders have been involved in the program?*

Since 1998, nearly 1,000 offenders have completed the entire boot camp program that includes participation in a victim impact panel.

6. *How do you evaluate whether program mission, goals and objectives are being met? What have the results of that evaluation been?*

The new curriculum has a new pre- and post-test for gauging success. Starting with a new group of offenders in August 2011, these test results will be analyzed to determine percentage of knowledge gained by offenders and whether goals and objectives of the program are being met.

The most useful measure used is simply observing and talking to offenders who have experienced the program. A high percentage of offenders have a significant emotional response to the panel. Many who have a history of not showing emotion break down during the panels. If offenders can get an emotional connection to the impact they have had on victims, it may reduce their likelihood to reoffend.