



Community, Action, Advocacy, Relationship

edmundrice
JUSTICE
Aotearoa, New Zealand

Last week the Edmund Rice Justice Trust hosted its first Ethical Encounter event focused on Restorative Justice. Jackie Katounas from Blenheim who is the lead Restorative Justice Facilitator for the trust spoke of her experience and work as a Restorative Justice facilitator and shared her story.



Jackie stated the need for restorative Justice conferences not to be a 'box-ticking exercise' before sentencing, but rather meaningful and genuine conferences to attempt to facilitate healing and the moving forward for both the victim and offender. The floor was then open for everyone to engage in conversation with Jackie. The invited guests came from a variety of backgrounds and experiences. The depth of collective wisdom and experience gathered around the table enriched the conversation.

Cathy Harrison commented that the "moving narrative and insight into the criminal justice system and potential for healing through post sentencing was very inspiring, and having such informed perspectives made for a very engaging first Ethical Encounter".

The next Ethical Encounter will be in Christchurch with more planned during next year.



**"Beware of getting too comfortable!
When we are comfortable, it's easy to forget other people"
– Pope Francis**