

Te Kaupapa Whakaora

Background

Te Kaupapa Whakaora was launched by Judge Saunders in Christchurch in 2012.

The project is a partnership between Edmund Rice Justice Aotearoa, Victim Support New Zealand, Pathways Reintegration and Community Law. It provides restorative justice conferences to victims and offenders post sentence.

As a post sentence provider generally the offending involved is of a high level nature such as murder, manslaughter or offending of a sexual nature. This type of restorative justice is not currently funded by the Ministry of Justice or Corrections despite the high level of positive feedback from participants on how worthwhile the process has been in healing the harm and assisting participants in moving forward after serious offending has occurred.

Jackie Katounas is currently the lead facilitator and has around 20 years of experience as a restorative justice facilitator particularly in prisons previously with Prison Fellowship.

Process

See attached Key Partner Roles.

Applications are accepted from both victims and offenders of crime.

Pathway Reintegration is a prisoner reintegration service and support offenders through the process once an application is received.

Victim Support provides support for victims through the process and funding for victims to travel if they live out of town and accommodation.

The restorative justice facilitation is provided by Edmund Rice Justice Aotearoa. This has been Chris Nolan and Jackie Katounas. A report is completed which is given to participants and the parole board if requested.

Te Kaupapa Whakaora has provided both victims and offenders of very serious crimes an avenue to address the harm caused and to assist the healing process. The feedback has only ever been positive from both victims and offenders even in the most horrific circumstances.

See Tui Motu article link.

<http://www.tuimotu.org/2014/3/eye---for---eye---makes---the---world---blind>

This project also helped put Edmund Rice Justice on the map in this field. It is cutting edge work and is recognised nationally. Presentations about the project have been made at the International and National Restorative Practises Conferences, and to other organisations such as Schools and justice groups.

See attached Restorative Justice Aotearoa newsletter.