



County of Marin Community Service Fund Program Application Form

Application Date March 30, 2021

Fiscal Year July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021

Organization Information

Full Legal Name: Transformative Justice Institute, Inc.

Organization URL: www.tjinstitute.org

Mission

Mission/purpose of your organization:

The Transformative Justice Institute (TJI) is a non-profit organization whose mission is to encourage healthy, vibrant and equitable communities by making restorative justice practices available and accessible throughout Marin County.

Restorative justice is a philosophy and a movement practiced for many years with indigenous cultures. In the West, restorative justice has been adapted to the criminal justice system to help address the needs for victims of crime, giving them a voice, understanding what they need to heal while also holding accountable the offenders, providing education and addressing their needs as well. Restorative justice sees any crime, offense or harm as a break down in relationships and works to repair and restore our connections with each other.

Description and quantifying impact of COVID-19 pandemic on your organization or the residents that it serves.

The pandemic served to continue driving deep divisions between people of different backgrounds, political beliefs and ethnicities. The County needs a healthier way to discuss and deal with divisions. Our TJI's restorative justice practices are vital for that. We strive to bring people together to foster deeper connections so crucial to healing antagonisms driven by hate and misunderstanding. We plan to work to educate the community about the struggles and fears that are driving hateful behaviors. Incidents of COVID and hate crimes are disproportionately affecting individuals of color, whether they are in professional positions serving in healthcare or are lower paid essential workers, providing vital services, such as elder care providers, grocery clerks, wait staff, custodians and transportation workers. Or they simply appear to be different. There are many initiatives throughout the County to support diversity. This would serve as one more tool to support equity and diversity.

Grant Request Information

Program/Project Name: Using Restorative Justice to Address and Heal the Impacts of Hate Crimes in Marin Phase 1

Summary description of your project:

Restorative justice practices address harm and obligations due to hate crimes. The victimized have a voice and feel empowered, taking an active role in determining the form of justice to be delivered, holding the responsible parties accountable.

Amount Requested Dollar: \$10,000.00

Total Project Cost: \$24,818.00

Description of the proposed project/program, including the proposed project's goal(s), and the nature of the costs in specific terms, i.e. materials, labor costs, etc. Specifics of how the requested County funds will be used.

There's been a recent increase in hate crimes nationally, in California and Marin is not immune. Hate crimes are bias motivated crimes, committed due to an erroneous belief someone holds about another individual or a race. Over 90% of hate crimes are committed against someone the perpetrator does not know. We need to have an appropriate response that is both effective in stopping the behaviors and addressing the harm and needs of those victimized or impacted. Restorative Justice is one such way.

In Phase 1, representatives and stake holders from each of our county's cities and towns, will come together for the purpose of creating a countywide restorative/collaborative response team to address harm from hate crimes. Phase 2 will address low-level offences, in each of our communities.

In Phase 1, in collaboration with local law enforcement, the DA's office, county probation and other CBOs, we will

recruit community volunteers and train a team of restorative responders who provide targeted presentations to raise awareness and educate the community, while providing prevention strategies. In Phase 2, these restorative responders will also be available to provide an alternative to incarceration to address lower-level hate crime instances and assess and address both the needs of the offending party and the person(s) harmed, to create a restorative plan to support their full return and re-integration back into their communities vs sentencing or jail time. Using Restorative Justice (RJ) as a framework with the principles and practices of transparency, respect (in word and action) for all, reparation, accountability and full participation, we will launch a county wide program that brings to the table those impacted by hate crimes (individuals or communities) and those who perpetuate a hate crime to have a discussion that addresses impacts, needs and agreeable forms of reparation. 3 RJ practices include:

- Facilitated Dialogues
- Circle Processes
- Bystander Intervention

List of all community interests that will be affected by the proposed project/program and the public benefit to be derived from it:

The country and this community are ready for and seeking new ways of dealing with insidious, long-ingrained problems. They want to see more equity in our legal system for everyone, not just the few. Transformative Justice Institute is offering a new way to deal with old problems. Utilizing Restorative Justice (RJ) practices to address harm and obligations due to hate crimes, allows those who were most impacted to feel empowered, it gives them a voice and also sends the message that their needs are being taken seriously. It also gives those same individuals, victimized by crime, an active role in determining the form of justice to be delivered. RJ practices are designed to hold the responsible parties accountable so they understand the direct impacts of their actions on the people they harmed.

One county-wide RJ response team pulling from a pool of trained volunteers from each town, trained in RJ practices eliminates the need for each community to have their own RJ response and alleviates the burden for lower-level offenses on law enforcement or probation.

Ongoing support, training, oversight and education provided by the Transformative Justice Institute will prove to be cost effective to the county and each community in addressing harm and restoring individuals.

The RJ program relieves the burden on Law Enforcement and offers viable alternatives to traditional policing. Also, by offering actual RJ services which can potentially address the needs of low-level offenders this program can result in the reduction of recidivism by decreasing further micro or macro-offenses.

In addition, thorough assessments and additional services offered to the harmed and the accused can re-connect them further to their communities (therapy, AA/NA, education).

The implementation of an RJ program has the potential to increase neighborhood and personal safety, support the diversity this community says it desires more of, while providing healthy community conflict resolution.

This organization has never received Community Service funds.

No County funding was received for this project or others.

Project/program can be completed if amount received is less than requested amount of Community Service funds.

Applicants are encouraged to leverage funding from other non-County sources, and priority will be given to requests that represent no more than 50% of total project cost. To demonstrate all sources of project funding, including other County sources, please provide a project/program budget below. Please fill in as applicable, and round to the nearest dollar.

Project Funding Sources	Funding Agency	Funding Requested	Received	Notes
County CSF	County of Marin	\$10,000		
Federal Grant		\$0		
State Grant				
Individual Contributions		\$3,500	\$1,000	
Other Local Agencies	MCF/Family Foundations	\$4,275	\$0	<i>in process</i>
In kind services	Volunteer and donated venue for training	\$2,768		<i>\$27.20 Value of Volunteer time per hour</i>
Other	Business & Corps	\$4,275	\$0	<i>in process</i>
Total Sources		\$24,818	\$1,000	
Project Expenses		Budgeted	Spent to Date	Notes
Personnel Costs		\$2,000		
Services and Supplies		\$19,218		
Capital		\$0	\$0	
Other		\$3,600		
Total Expenses		\$24,818	\$0	