

THE ROOTS OF RESTORATIVE JUSTICE



Wabanaki REACH

Truth • Healing • Change

Indigenous in nature, restorative justice is a way of thinking and being. The circle process used in restorative justice is rooted in the Indigenous tradition of talking circles with the goal of seeking wholeness in communities.



THREE DIFFERENT QUESTIONS

What laws have been broken?

Who did it?

What do they deserve?

VS

Who has been harmed?

What are their needs?

Whose obligations are these?

PILLARS OF RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

1 Restorative justice focuses on harm. Restorative justice understands crime, first of all, as harm done to people and communities.

2 Wrongs or harms result in obligations. Restorative justice emphasizes accountability and responsibility for those who cause harm.

3 Restorative justice promotes engagement or participation. Primary parties affected are provided with significant roles in the justice process.