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Red Hood Peace Making Program



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Program Start Date: 2013

Website: http://www.courtinnovation.org/project/peacemaking-program

Description: Peacemaking is a traditional Native American form of justice that promotes healing and restoration. Although peacemaking varies across tribes, it generally brings together defendants and victims, as well as others affected by the defendant's behavior. Peacemakers, who are trained volunteers from the community, lead the peacemaking sessions and allow each participant to speak about how the case has affected him or her personally. The Red Hook Peacemaking Program, run by the Center for Court Innovation's Tribal Justice Exchange and located in the Red Hook Community Justice Center, brings this form of tribal justice to the state court system. It seeks to resolve disputes through an inclusive, non-adversarial process that empowers all of the affected parties. The goal of peacemaking is to heal the underlying relationships and help the defendant repair the harm.

Criminal Justice Partners: The primary partners for this program are Native American peacemakers, the community, and justice system stakeholders. The main justice system stakeholders include the judiciary, representatives from the Kings County District Attorney's office, the Legal Aid Society, and the Red Hook Community Justice Center's on-site treatment clinic.

Evaluation/Research: a Center for Court Innovation evaluation report, Peacemaking Circles: Evaluating a Native American Restorative Justice Practice in a State Criminal Court Setting in Brooklyn (2015), is available at:

http://www.courtinnovation.org/sites/default/files/documents/Peacemaking%20Circles%20Final.pdf

Implementation Guide: Click Here





