

Sponsored by
Joliet Diocese Peace and Social Justice Ministry and Restorative Justice Committee

CHILDREN: How They Are Affected By the Criminal Justice System

RESTORATIVE JUSTICE EVENT

Saturday, March 27, 2010



Registration 9am
Program 9:30am until 2:30pm
Lunch included

Sacred Heart Parish Hall
337 S. Ottawa St.
Joliet, IL 60436

Suggested donation \$15 for adults. \$10 for students.

All teachers, catechists, youth ministers, those working with prisoners, advocates for restorative justice, family members of people incarcerated, persons formerly incarcerated, and those interested in learning more, are most welcome.

The program will feature a panel of speakers and break out sessions.

RSVP deadline: March 18, 2010

Register by phone: 815-834-4028, e-mail: jenruh@dioceseofjoliet.org

or mail to: Peace & Social Justice Ministry, Diocese of Joliet

402 S. Independence Blvd., Romeoville, IL 60446-2264.

(Please include with your registrations, your name, phone number, e-mail address, parish/organization and special diet restrictions)

Schedule of Events

TIME	SPEAKER / EVENT INFORMATION
9:00AM	REGISTRATION AND CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST
9:30AM	WELCOME AND PRAYER
9:45AM	<p>PANEL FROM <i>Family Services of McHenry County</i></p> <p>Cheryl Niemo, whose son was incarcerated, is a Family Resource Developer who provides parent support to youth and their families including those who experienced the incarceration of a loved one. <i>Tei</i>, her co-worker assists youth whose fathers were in jail.</p> <p>Cathy Smith, a community therapist who developed a pilot group for youth 6-15 years old. The group focuses on <i>dealing with family identity, getting in touch with and coping with difficult emotions, reducing isolation and providing support family to family, teaching healthy techniques for asking for what you need, providing a safe place to have fun, and healing.</i></p>
10:45AM	BREAK
11:00AM	<p>“<i>What Happens to Children in the Criminal Justice System.</i>”</p> <p>Joanne Perkins, former Deputy Director Juvenile Division Department Of Corrections worked in corrections for 26 years and in mental health for 10—all with juveniles. She was the Superintendent of IL Youth Corrections-Warrenville, a juvenile facility served by deacons and parishioners from our diocese, for 10 years. Her husband was a chaplain in a juvenile prison for many years. Joanne’s experiences have provided her with an understanding of the problems juveniles face before, during and after their involvement with the criminal justice system.</p>
11:30AM	LUNCH
12:15AM	<p>Art Leamy, C.A.S.A. (Court Appointed Special Advocate for Children) volunteer, will explain program, share from his experience regarding circumstances and problems of children, and how to become an advocate. Each year approximately 780,000 US children are unable to live safely at home and so end up in the courts and in the welfare system. C.A.S.A. volunteers are appointed by judges to watch over and advocate for neglected and abused children. They are often the only constant in these children’s lives; they serve as overseers for individual children’s welfare and safety. Last year 240,000 children at risk were served by more than 68,000 volunteers. Since the program started in 1977 over two million abused children were assisted.</p>

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12:45PM	Pat Riley , currently a job coach with Trinity Services, Inc. in Joliet, also taught Special Education to 7 th graders for 7 years, and along with wife Lois and son Ben, lived and served for 6 months in the L'ARCHE Community of Trosley-Breuil, France, founded by Jean Vanier in 1979 for the handicapped. Mr. Riley will speak about the need for a Mental Health Court in Will County, share his family's personal experience, relate the current status of such a court in Will County, and describe models of other types of mental health courts.
1:15PM	Dr. Christie Billups , currently teaching "Faith Behind Bars" at Lewis University, ministered to incarcerated youth at Cook County Jail for 16 years with a team from Kolbe House Jail Ministry of Chicago. She has a call to walk with youth on the margins. She believes restorative justice is the most effective way to heal communities in the midst of violence and division and to move forward to a more peaceful and hopeful future. Together, we also need to address the circumstances and systems that entice children and youth to become involved in violence and destructive activities while we support the communities from which they come in building possibilities for positivity and success.
1:45PM	BREAK
1:55PM	Small Sharing Groups (break into groups of 5-7 people)
2:15PM	Large Group Sharing
2:25PM	RECAP by Sr. Juanita Ujik
2:30PM	Closing

Joliet Diocese Restorative Justice Committee is sponsoring an offering of the JustMatters' *Prison Reform* module from JustFaith. Committee members will facilitate the 6 sessions to be held on Thursdays April 8, 15, 22 and May 6, 13, and 20 from 6:30pm until 9pm at St. Charles Pastoral Center, located at Airport Rd and Route 53, adjacent to the north side of Lewis University. Group members, usually 10, will share the \$100 registration fee. Book and materials cost per person will probably be \$25 so \$35 would be the probable total per person.