



ROGER PASCAL RESTORATIVE JUSTICE INITIATIVE

Five Year Retrospective

James B. Moran Center for Youth Advocacy

2019-2024



Reflections on Restorative Justice

from Pam Cytrynbaum, *Restorative Justice Manager*



Nearly 25 years ago, during the appointment confirming my pregnancy, the astute midwife gently took my hand and said: *Now you must start letting go.*

And so began my learning (and unlearning) the most powerful life lesson guiding both my parenting and restorative philosophy: Children and restorative practices have their own paths. For both, you must prepare as best as you can. You create conditions and offer guidelines. You give your wholehearted wisdom and your whole heart... and then you *let go.*



As the Moran Center celebrates five years of the Roger Pascal Restorative Justice Initiative, I reflect on the hundreds of restorative practices I've witnessed – circles for repair, celebration, re-entry/welcoming, community building, etc. Participants have found connection and comfort in unexpected ways and move toward growth and understanding.



This is not to say every practice has been easy. Truth, repair, and real talk are often messy and complex. But when we maintain fidelity to our shared values and guidelines that offer confidentiality, uninterrupted speaking, radical, deep listening, and speaking authentically, people inevitably find the human connections they've always sought.

I've experienced countless humbling, profound, and, of course, surprising moments in circle:

- People who thought they needed to speak, experiencing deep listening;
- People who never felt heard, watching as we all listened;
- People shunned from the community finding a way back in;
- Children who caused each other profound harm recognizing themselves in each other;
- Children stunned as their caregivers shared the harms *they* caused as children, reminding us about second chances and that nobody should be reduced to the worst mistake they've ever made;
- Young adults who caused harm held accountable and still able to move forward, unbound by punitive systemic obstacles that make second chances impossible for so many;
- Educators centering students' wisdom by asking them how they learn best and what gets in their way;
- Elders and emerging adults in intergenerational circles speaking honestly about what divides them, what connects them, and what they can learn from – and with – each other;
- Colleagues working on the front lines creating a shared space for comfort and healing, reminding each other they're not alone; and
- Community members who speak different languages, sharing laughter and surprise in finding so much in common.

At the Moran Center, I've experienced the transformative power of restorative philosophy and practice, strengthening both relationships and community. And I eagerly want our entire community to experience restorative practices too! So I encourage you to engage with the Moran Center: read and learn a bit about restorative practices in this report, look for upcoming restorative training opportunities and community conversations, and help us build an authentically restorative community.

Circle up with us. Pull up a chair, open your heart, and *start letting go*.

Table of Contents

| | |
|--|-------|
| About the Moran Center | 4 |
| About the Roger Pascal Restorative Justice Initiative | 5 |
| What is Restorative Justice and how does it work? | 6 |
| Diversion: A Systemic Off-ramp | 7-8 |
| Meet the Team | 9 |
| Community Peace Builders | 10-11 |
| Remembering Ms. Delores Holmes | 12 |
| History | 13-18 |
| Looking Ahead | 19 |
| Who Participates in Circles? | 20 |
| Community Impact & Program Growth | 21 |
| Partners | 22-25 |
| Supporters | 26 |
| How Much Does it Cost to Hold a Circle? | 27 |
| How Can I Support the Roger Pascal Restorative Justice Initiative? | 28 |

About the Moran Center



The James B. Moran Center for Youth Advocacy (Moran Center) provides community-based legal, mental health, and restorative services for youth and families. Our approach is holistic, healing-centered, client-driven. Our work advances the vision of a more just, racially equitable, and restorative society at the local, regional, and state level.

We envision that...

- Youth and families have bright futures – successful in school, jobs, and the community.
- Our community is just and racially equitable, employing restorative practices to resolve conflict.
- Systemic barriers are dismantled locally, regionally, and statewide – adopting instead public policies that radically benefit and improve the lives of historically marginalized youth and families.

Our integrated programs include:

- Youth & Emerging Adult Criminal Defense
- Criminal Record Relief Practice
- Education Advocacy Program
- School-Based Civil Legal Services
- Mental Health Services
- Roger Pascal Restorative Justice Initiative



Board of Directors

David Soglin, *Chair*

Jared Davis, *Vice Chair*

Pat Gladden, *Secretary*

Chip Peters, *Treasurer*

Ann K. Adams

Carey Bartell

Jeffrey Bergman

David Cutter

Janet Alexander Davis

Carmen Francellno

Tiffini Holmes

Kathy Lyons

Stacey Sherr Michelon

Jennifer Moran

Jon Samuels

Hank Thompson

Lisa Winn

About the Roger Pascal Restorative Justice Initiative

The Roger Pascal Restorative Justice Initiative (RPRJI) is the Moran Center's multi-pronged plan for building a restorative community – weaving together a tightly knit system of programs, services, and policies based upon the values of restoration and justice. The RPRJI team works with community-based organizations, schools, and court officials, as well as parents and youth, to introduce and support restorative practices. Through this Initiative, the Moran Center offers sessions and circle trainings for community members on the philosophy and practice of restorative justice, as well as models of implementation.



Who was Roger Pascal?

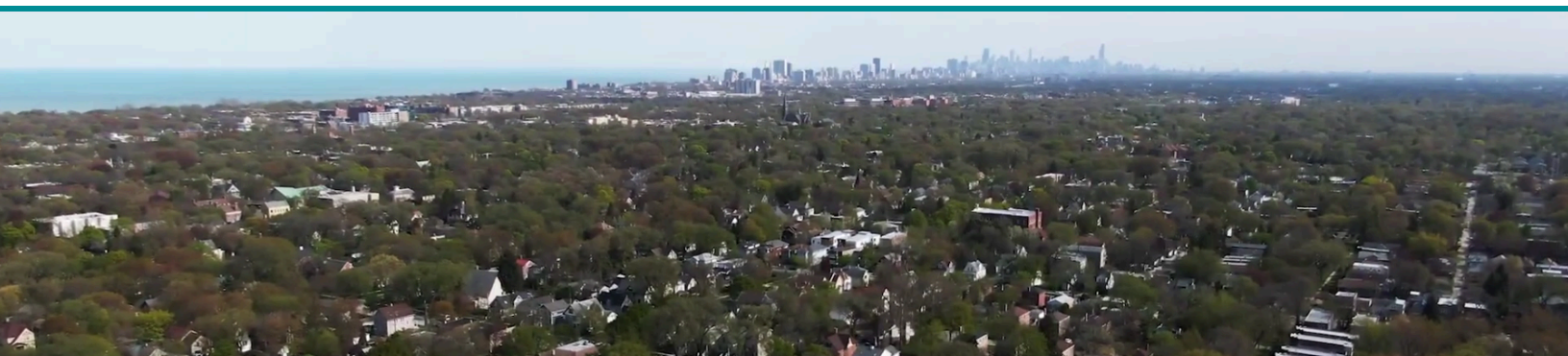
Roger Pascal was a lawyer and partner with the law firm Schiff Hardin for 50 years, and a brilliant litigator. He was a consummate volunteer attorney and Board Member of the Moran Center for more than 30 years. A friend and tireless supporter of justice and civil liberties no matter how difficult the struggle, Roger inspired generations of lawyers to make the world a better place.

What is a Restorative Community?

There is no singular vision for a restorative community. Instead, there is a set of foundational principles guiding communities to find their way together.

A restorative community is deeply rooted in the human capacity for transformation, and in the belief that people are far more and far better than the worst thing they have ever done. In a restorative community, all members are active stewards who hold each other accountable for the harms they cause and the needs they have.

A restorative community is a place where our shared responsibility to each other and our community is lived daily by our commitment to restorative practices that are embedded culturally – in the way we treat each other – and structurally in our neighborhoods, schools, and social systems.



What is Restorative Justice?

Restorative Justice (RJ) is a philosophy based on a set of principles that guide the response to conflict and harm. Restorative philosophy is a critical part of building a restorative community, reflecting the reality that acts of wrongdoing do not just violate laws and rules – they harm people, communities, and relationships.

By providing a mechanism to identify and repair such harm, RJ builds relationships and empowers the community to take responsibility for the well-being of its members. RJ uses a wide range of facilitated, restorative conversations including peace circles, harm repair conferences, re-entry support circles, family conferences, incident-response circles, and community circles.

| Instead of Asking... | Restorative Justice asks... |
|-------------------------|--|
| “What law was broken?” | “What is the harm caused and to whom?” |
| “What do they deserve?” | “Who has the obligation to address the needs, repair the harms, restore the relationships, and how?” |

All stakeholders of a restorative community are involved in the process of repairing harms. Those impacted by wrongdoing are given the opportunity to collectively identify the harm’s impact and determine the steps needed to right the wrongs. By focusing on repairing harm and addressing root causes, relationships are strengthened, community members have a more meaningful opportunity to learn and grow from their mistakes, and future harm is less likely.

How Do Restorative Circles Work?

The Moran Center follows a few key practices and principles:

- Circles are usually confidential: “Whatever is said in circle stays in circle.” This is protected by law. (p. 14)
- We practice radical listening (listening for understanding, not response) and radical honesty.
- We honor confidentiality. Our stories are our own and will not be shared. We are encouraged to share lessons learned and our own experiences.*
- We honor the use of a “talking piece” (*pictured above right*), typically a meaningful object for participants. We speak only when we have it, and no one is interrupted.
- Sharing is voluntary - no one is obligated to speak.



Diversion: A Systemic Off-ramp

The Moran Center uses Restorative Justice to steer youth away from the criminal legal system and into alternative modes of accountability and justice. People are referred to the Moran Center by community members, government actors, etc. A person going through a restorative justice program and completing a repair of harm agreement may have their citation discharged, arrest diverted, case dismissed, etc.

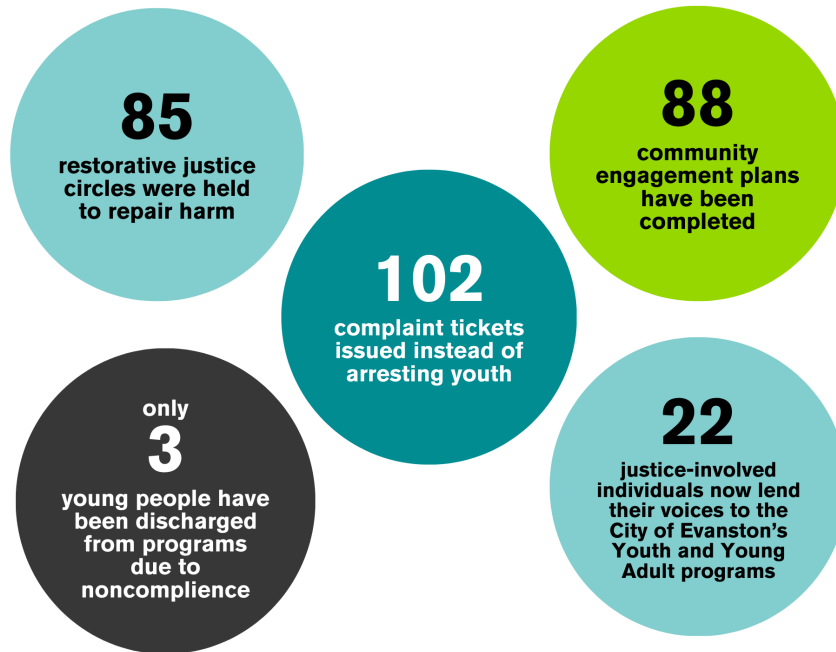
Young people participating in the Moran Center’s Roger Pascal Restorative Justice Initiative receive an asset-based assessment. As part of their repair plans, participants create vision boards, explore career aspirations, create public service campaigns, and volunteer at numerous community events. Many of these successful plans of repair are created within circles or family conferences that include the participation of Community Elders, Evanston Police Officers, mental health professionals, and those impacted by the harm.

Harms make needs visible. When harms are the result of a child’s basic needs not being met - experiencing homelessness and/or food insecurity, struggling with substance use, and/or managing mental illness - the person is directly referred to the appropriate agency for resources. Referrals and follow-up services are a part of the plan of repair.

The Moran Center led efforts in 2019 to reduce arrests in the community and embed restorative practices, widening the off-ramp from the poverty-to-institutionalization pipeline. This included moving numerous misdemeanors in the City Code and empowering police officers to issue city citations instead of arresting youth for minor offenses.

With these new measures, after receiving a citation, youth are now offered the opportunity to participate in a restorative process where all participants collectively create a repair of harm agreement that includes individualized assessment and meaningful community service opportunities.

Since 2019, there has been a reduction in youth arrests and the creation of better outcomes for young people:



Joe's Story

Joe is a young man who first encountered the Moran Center when he faced significant risk of prosecution and incarceration surrounding a theft incident. Eager to repair the harm and continue working toward his career goal - acting in films - Joe connected with Moran Center Emerging Adult Defense Attorney Tom Verdun. Understanding the gravity of the consequences Joe faced, Tom enlisted the collaborative support of Pam Cytrynbaum, Moran Center's Restorative Justice Manager.*

Together, they contacted the executive of the institution that had been harmed. Tom and Pam worked with Joe, the institution's executive, their risk management attorney, and the police officer investigating the case to create a "repair of harm" agreement. This agreement included both financial restitution and a schedule of community engagement hours where Joe worked with Evanston's youth - which is both his passion and a second career interest.

Joe remained motivated and successfully completed this plan of repair during the pandemic. Instead of facing a future of incarceration with records of arrests and conviction, Joe can look forward to his future, now having had a great experience working with youth and garnering enthusiastic references from supervisors. Today, Joe is now thriving in California, where he has found a job, his own apartment, and a group of friends.

**Client name has been changed*

Meet the Team

Pam Cytrynbaum

Restorative Justice Manager



Pam Cytrynbaum is a longtime restorative circle keeper in Evanston, a veteran investigative journalist, and an educator. As Moran Center’s Restorative Justice Manager, Pam offers community-building circle keeping; provides training, support, and coaching to organizations and community members interested in embedding restorative philosophy and practices within their work and lives; and directs advocacy efforts to promote the adoption of restorative justice practices within public institutions, including schools and the criminal legal system.

As an investigative journalist, Pam served as Senior Editor for Injustice Watch, executive director of the Chicago Innocence Center, associate director of the Justice Brandeis Law Project at Brandeis University, and as a staff writer for the Chicago Tribune. Her work has appeared in The New York Times, The Washington Post, and the Chicago Sun-Times. She taught at Northwestern University’s Medill School of Journalism and is a proud “Kit-Cat,” having graduated from Evanston Township High School (Wildkits) and Northwestern University (Wildcats). She is most proud of receiving the ETHS Distinguished Alumni Award in 2018 and of being a Mom to an ETHS graduate.

Emeric Mazibuko

Restorative Justice Coordinator



In Fall 2022, the Moran Center’s Restorative Justice Initiative hired Restorative Justice Coordinator Emeric Mazibuko. Emeric is a renowned youth worker, bringing strong relationships within the Evanston community to his work, as well as deep restorative lived experience.

He grew up in South Africa during Apartheid and lived through the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. Emeric is extensively trained in restorative practices and has worked as a community-based youth outreach worker and organizer in Evanston for the past 15 years.

Community Peace Builders

The Moran Center’s Community Peace Builders are a team of Community Elders and emerging adults working to embed restorative practices throughout Evanston. Starting in 2022, the Community Peace Builders have shared their wisdom and experiences relating to restorative justice in a wide range of public forums including: providing circle training for ETHS students, resulting in students holding their own restorative circles; holding circles with the West End Community Block Club to bring neighbors closer together; participating in discussions held at the National New Blue Conference; leading a series of intergenerational Truth Telling circles and more.

Community Elders

Janet Alexander Davis



Eva Coley



Delores Holmes



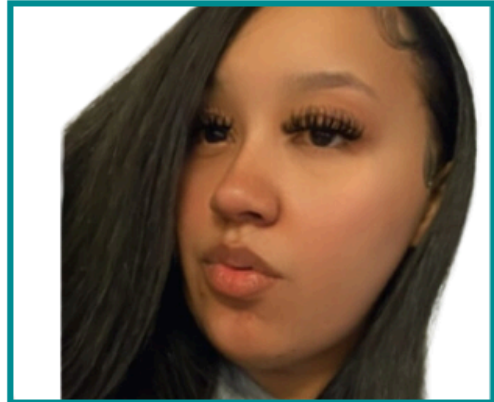
photo credit,
Evanston
RoundTable

Emerging Adults

Amari Radcliffe



Jasmine Winfield



Dontrel Hatfield



Tae Shumaker



Community Peace Builders in Action

“Our name is Community Peace Builders. We go out and we bring our community back together.”
- Amari Radcliffe



“My optimism has grown in the past year... they create a space that’s actually safe.”
- Tae Shumaker, on joining the Community Peace Builders

“It changes people.. They feel cared for when they’re there.”
- Emeric Mazibuko, on the power of the Circle

Remembering Ms. Delores Holmes

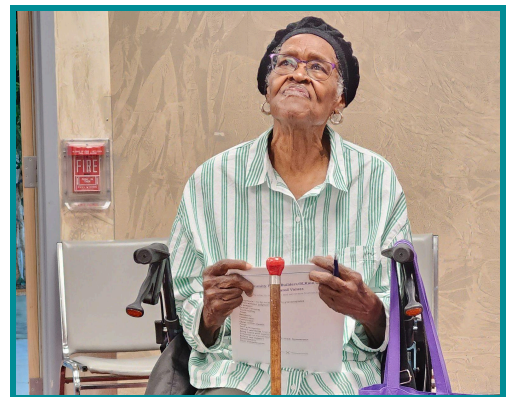
The Honorable Delores Holmes was an elegant powerhouse of grace, justice, wisdom, and action. We join our community in grieving her loss and celebrating her remarkable life. And what a life it was. She was everywhere all at once. Everyone has a story of how “Ms. Holmes,” as she was lovingly known, was there for them, changed them, and was a role model for them.

Ms. Holmes graced the Moran Center with her energy and wisdom in a range of restorative justice projects in recent years, spending the last year as a cherished Elder and Founding Member of our Community Peace Builders. Her generosity of wisdom and spirit was unmatched. With joy, humor, and deep authenticity, Ms. Holmes guided our team of intergenerational restorative activists in circles throughout our community.

One of her greatest gifts – and joys – was listening deeply to young people. Despite health challenges, Ms. Holmes, a true lifelong learner, showed up in our circles with the most open of hearts, and an astonishing capacity to listen, hear our hearts, and find connection with everyone.

Ms. Holmes’ impact on our community as a whole and upon so many of us as individuals is immeasurable, and we will feel it and know it for generations.

Photo credits from top:
1) Evanston RoundTable, 2-4) The Moran Center



History

2019

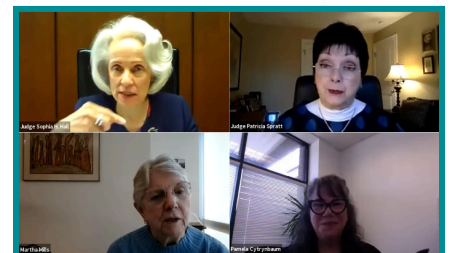
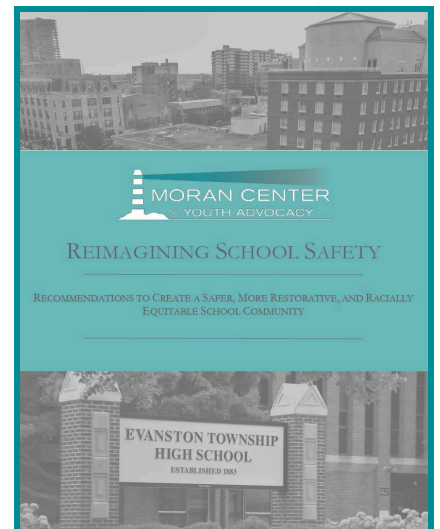
- The Roger Pascal Restorative Justice Initiative is created through the generous support of the Pascal family and friends in September 2019.
- The Moran Center leads advocacy efforts in local reforms that reduce the number of youth arrests for minor offenses.

2020

- The Moran Center operations continue virtually during the COVID-19 Pandemic, including the Roger Pascal Restorative Justice Initiative (RPRJI), focusing on providing healing spaces for front-line providers.

2021

- The Moran Center releases the *“Reimagining School Safety Report,”* providing research and recommendations around equitable, restorative school discipline and safety measures.
- The Moran Center partners with the Evanston Collective - a restorative coalition of youth-serving organizations in Evanston - to launch the *“My City, Your City, Our City”* initiative (MCYCOC). Free events are hosted all summer with the goal of reducing youth violence and providing relief for youth put under stress by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The RPRJI hosts a virtual panel of judges leading in the development of restorative courts in Cook County, including the Honorable Sophia H. Hall, Hon. Martha A. Mills, Hon. Sheila M. Murphy, and Hon. Patricia S. Pratt.



2021

- The Moran Center’s Executive Director Patrick Keenan- Devlin gives a TEDx talk at Northwestern University, reflecting on his journey to restorative justice while working as a juvenile defense attorney.

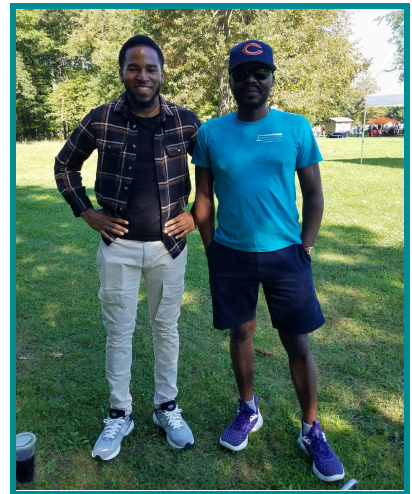


Restorative Justice Evidentiary Privilege Becomes Law

*Following five years of inspiring teamwork by advocates, on July 15, 2021, Governor J.B. Pritzker signed Senate Bill 64 into law. The historic new law eliminates the fear of self-incrimination which can discourage authentic participation in a restorative justice practice. **Now, what is said and done during a restorative justice practice cannot be later used against participants in a court of law.***

2022

- The Moran Center is awarded transformational funding by the Justice Advisory Council through the American Rescue Plan Act: more than \$600,000 to sustain the Roger Pascal Restorative Justice Initiative for three years (2022-2025)
- The Moran Center hires Emeric Mazibuko as Restorative Justice Coordinator. (pictured right)
- Emeric begins to build community with Black youth and introduce them to restorative justice. BLK mn Gathering is established as a space for support and community building for emerging Black men in their early 20s.
- The Community Peace Builders, a cohort of Elders and young adults - organize and begin training as Circle Keepers. (pictured right)





2023

- The Moran Center hosts a Restorative Summer Institute for Districts 65 and 202 students, exploring restorative practices and Kingian nonviolence, a way of life based on the life and work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
- Emeric co-hosts the ETHS Black Male Summit, leading a circle of 60 students.
- The Moran Center staff participates in a Restorative Justice training with NewRoot Learning Institute. (pictured at top)
- Mayor Daniel Biss declares the third week of November as Restorative Justice Week in Evanston. (Pictured right: Kristen Kennard, Mayor Biss, Patrick Keenan-Devlin, and Audrey Thompson from the City of Evanston.)



2024

- Professors from Yonsei University in Seoul, South Korea visit the office to study the Moran Center's holistic, integrated model, including the Roger Pascal Restorative Justice Initiative. (pictured right)



2024

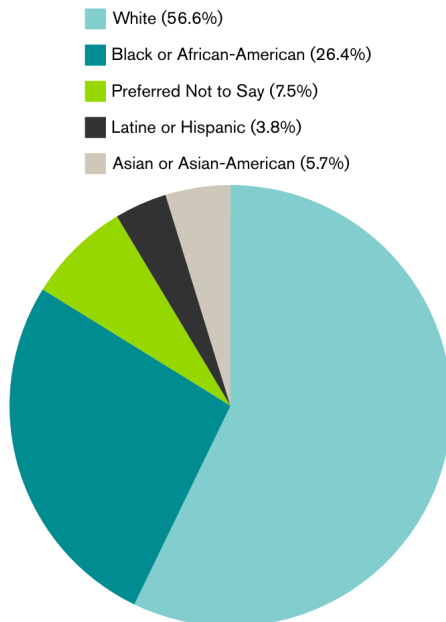
- The Community Peace Builders circle up with 55 Northwestern University and District 65 students for Eva Jefferson Patterson Day, celebrating NU's first Black elected Associated Student Government (ASG) President.
- Emeric Mazibuko works with 100 individuals at the ETHS Black Male Summit in February.
- Pam, Emeric, and the Community Peace Builders conduct circle trainings at ETHS in response to students' requests for restorative training.
- The Moran Center teaches restorative philosophy and trains future Circle Keepers at their second Summer Institute for ETHS students.
- A group of ETHS student Circle Keepers share their knowledge and advocate for restorative practices in a presentation to the School Board.
- The Moran Center enters a partnership with the Evanston Police Department to help them use restorative practices to build and repair relationships between police and youth.
- Pam serves on a community panel to discuss Second Baptist Church's documentary "Get On Board: One Church's Journey to Dismantle Racism in their City," highlighting the role of the Moran Center's RPRJI as a restorative partner..

Listening to the Community: Safety Circles and Surveys

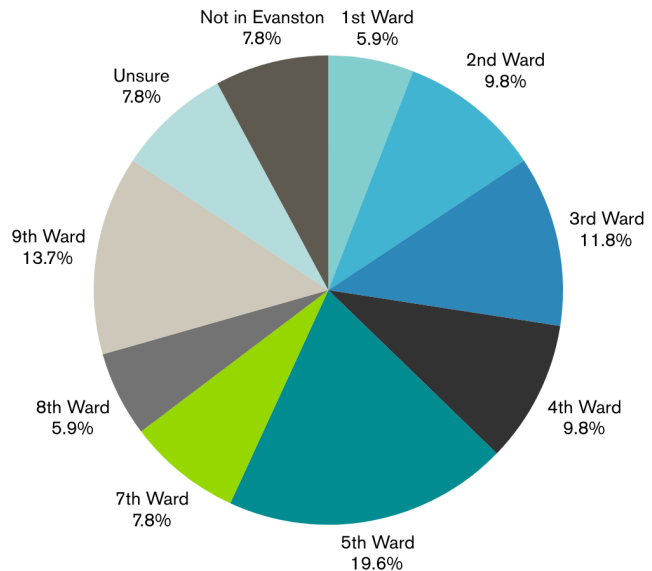
From October 2022 to December 2023, the Community Peace Builders convened 13 Circles, involving 381 residents. The Moran Center also surveyed 73 additional residents to ensure the survey sample was reflective of the wider community.

The survey relayed that the majority of Evanstonians want less punitive measures for harm. What makes people feel safe is the connections they have with members of their community. Punitive punishments for wrongs do not repair harm and relationships, and can further divide and separate people from the community. When harm is done, our community feels that accountability is the form of justice they desire. Job security, economic security, and mental health support prevents violence and equates to safety.

Survey Respondents Identified As:



Respondents Lived in Evanston Ward:



Healing Generational Trauma through Intergenerational Restorative Storytelling

In 2024, the Moran Center’s Restorative Justice team convened a series of restorative Truth Telling circles, hosting intergenerational dialogues about race, justice, and the community.

This racial healing initiative was held in partnership with Shorefront Legacy Center, with support from the Healing Illinois grant from the Field Foundation of Illinois and the Illinois Department of Human Services. During this series, the Community Peace Builders held intergenerational dialogues with different families throughout Evanston, offering spaces for community elders to tell their stories reflective of the close knit “village” of their 5th ward, and their experiences with racism and systemic violence.



The Moran Center held 20 circles, including training, and engaged 176 community members in intergenerational storytelling. Evanston families included the Bates family, Butler family, Coley family, Cromer family, Greene family, Haliburton family, Holmes-Ross family, and Wedlow family.

Each circle was recorded for both the Shorefront Legacy and Moran Center archives, and to provide these Evanston families with an oral history to pass down to future generations.

► Recordings can be watched at youtube.com/@morancenter

Looking Ahead

The Moran Center is so proud of how much the Roger Pascal Restorative Justice Initiative has accomplished in just five years.

Looking forward, the Initiative hopes to further expand its programming for the Evanston community by growing its team and training more members of the community in restorative practices. The Moran Center is eager to engage Evanston's Latine community to broaden the reach and support of restorative practices in the community. The RPRJI team will continue to facilitate circles and advise in harm repair cases, and hope to continue building the Community Peace Builders and BLK Mn Gathering.

The Moran Center will continue to deepen its involvement in The Collective, having established shared values and developed a more sophisticated referral network between organizations. Through this safety net, the Moran Center hopes to work toward one family needing to make only one call to be connected with the myriad resources they may need.

The Moran Center will remain on the ETHS Discipline Committee, advising on more equitable, fair, and restorative practices to be embedded at the school to establish a culture of accountability without fear.

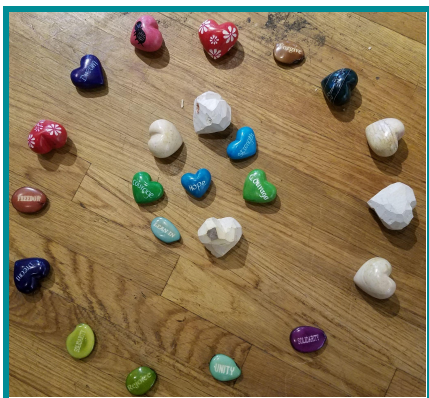
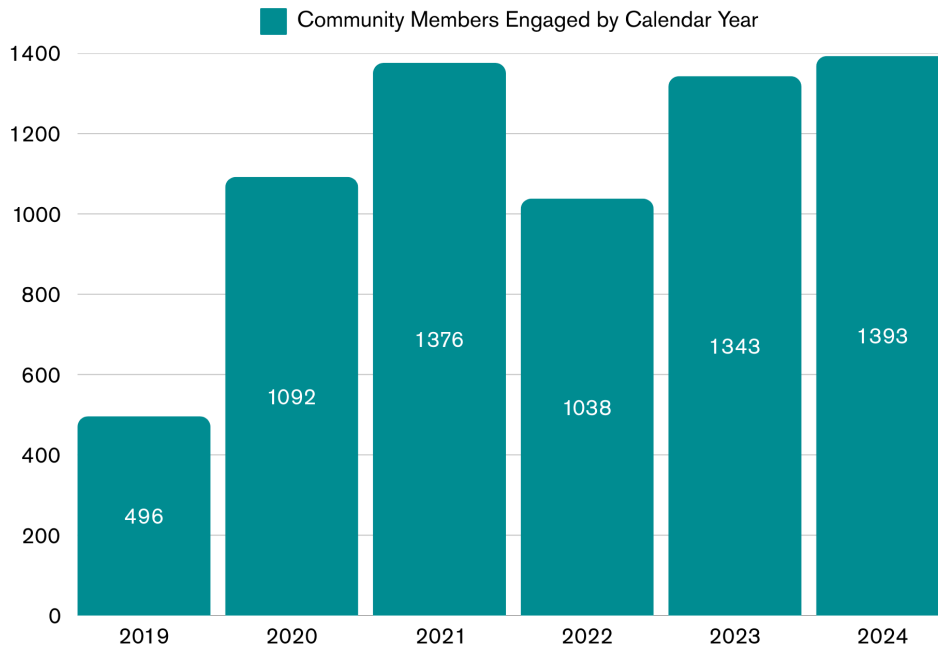
The Moran Center has been invited to conduct restorative training at Oakton Elementary School in D65 and invited by the Evanston Police Department to collaborate with their New Blue Fellows to build and repair relationships between police and youth.

The Moran Center will continue to advocate for the establishment of an Evanston Restorative Justice Community Court to give all people the chance to repair harms and restore relationships. The RPRJI team will continue to work toward a restorative community where circles will be held in many different aspects of life, from community-building to conflict resolution.



Who Participates in Circles?

From 2019 to 2024, the Roger Pascal Restorative Justice Initiative has engaged and served more than 6,000 community members.



“The value of these circles is very significant. It’s a wonderful experience. We need this forum. It is priceless. This is some hard work we’re doing here, the hardest stuff to do. People really need this space. It’s so impactful, so powerful. There’s a lot of soul sharing. We share our hearts. We address the vicarious trauma we carry in ways we don’t get to anywhere else. It uncovers a pathway to healing.”

- Roger Pascal Restorative Justice Initiative circle participant

Community Impact & Program Growth

Over the past three years, the Roger Pascal Restorative Justice Program has been funded in large part by the Justice Advisory Council (JAC) of Cook County. For the past three years, the Moran Center has tracked the RPRJI's growing impact with support from JAC.

September 1, 2022 - August 31, 2023

- The RPRJI convened **8** circles facilitated by the newly hired Community Peace Builders.
- **25** community trainings were hosted with **611** attendees.
- **5** circles were convened by new Restorative Justice Coordinator Emeric Mazibuko with **3** young Black leaders, serving as a building block for future engagement.
- The Moran Center consulted on **45** repair of harm cases, providing direct services in **14** matters.
- **27** community listening sessions (i.e. Safety Circles) were held with **652** members in attendance. Of these listening sessions, the Moran Center convened **12** circles with **266** Evanston/Skokie Students, laying the groundwork for whole-school training.
- Staff began working more at local community centers to build relationships, attending **37** times, averaging **30-40** youth interactions per visit.

September 1, 2023 - August 31, 2024

- Community Peace Builders convened **17** training circles with **205** attendees.
- **21** community training sessions were hosted with almost **400** attendees.
- **200** ETHS students came together in circles led by the Moran Center.
- **11** circles were held with **130** young Black leaders.
- The Moran Center offered mentoring and shared information at the ETHS Service Fair, with **350** students in attendance.
- The RPRJI team consulted on **21** legal cases, aiming to create restorative solutions for members of the community.
- **20** intergenerational family Truth Telling circles and trainings were held, engaging **176** community members and **8** Evanston families
- The RPRJI team conducted a total of **259** outreach events, interacting with a total of **2,830** community members.

Partners

Evanston Township High School

As a youth-serving nonprofit organization, the Moran Center dedicates much of its restorative justice efforts to schools, particularly Evanston Township High School (ETHS), the sole school in Evanston School District 202. The Moran Center also serves students of Evanston/Skokie School District 65 and Chicago's Roger's Park neighborhood. Over the years, the Moran Center has strengthened its partnership with ETHS - now being regularly invited to work with students in restorative justice.



Since 2019, the Moran Center has also served on the ETHS Discipline Committee, to advocate for a restorative approach in the school discipline practices disproportionately targeting students affected by poverty, students of color, and students with disabilities.

The Moran Center has partnered with ETHS Emerge Leadership Development Program to hold both circles and Circle Keeper training sessions. This partnership has created a ripple effect, with students now independently holding their own circles at school and training more Circle Keepers. The Moran Center worked with 240 ETHS Emerge students in 2023-2024.

In 2023 and 2024 the Moran Center held summer institutes for Evanston students, focusing on restorative justice.

Law Enforcement

Prior to the formation of the RPRJI, in June 2017, our Executive Director and Youth Defense Attorney, Patrick Keenan-Devlin was appointed to the City of Evanston's Alternatives to Arrest Committee. In 2024, the Moran Center began a collaboration with New Blue Fellows at the Evanston Police Department in their project to build and repair relationships with youth.

Crisis Alternative Response Evanston

An essential part of a restorative community is collective accountability. In 2024, Evanston welcomed a newly trained, trauma-informed civilian responder program, with whom the Moran Center is proud to partner.

CARE (Crisis Alternative Response Evanston) is a team of professionals who respond to immediate needs in the community that do not require a police presence. The Moran Center trained this team in mandated reporting and nonviolent de-escalation to support their duties.



The City of Evanston Youth & Young Adult Division

The Moran Center is proud to be a partner of the City of Evanston Youth & Young Adult (YYA) Division to help make Evanston a safe and restorative community.

The Moran Center has partnered in the “My City, Your City, Our City” initiative since it began in 2021, hosting free events for youth all summer, including BLOCK parties (Bringing Love to Our City and Kids) and First Fridays community building events. The goal of this initiative is to build community among Evanston youth, knowing that when youth feel seen and centered, they are more equipped to be their best selves.



Restorative Practitioners

The Moran Center partners with Dr. Gilo Kwesi Logan for his expertise in diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging to help our Committing to Racial Equity Task Force embed racial justice and restorative philosophy in all aspects of the Moran Center. This has included convening circles including staff and board members to build community. The Moran Center also works with the NewRoot Learning Institute (facilitators pictured right) continued staff learning regarding restorative practices.



Northwestern University

In June 2021, the Moran Center established a Restorative Justice Team at Northwestern University to build capacity for restorative justice inside and outside the prison system. This team was established in partnership with the *Northwestern University Prison Education Program* and the *Northwestern University Center on Negotiation, Mediation, and Restorative Justice* at Northwestern Pritzker School of Law.

In 2021, the Moran Center also collaborated with Northwestern's Theater Department to host *Circle Up: Building a Restorative Community*, featuring a film screening and community-building circles with students, faculty and community members. The film was CIRCLES, an award-winning documentary following the late Eric Butler, a survivor of Hurricane Katrina and renowned Circle Keeper. The community-building circles facilitated by Moran Center, introduced filmgoers to restorative philosophy and restorative circles before the screening. Following the film, the Moran Center facilitated circles for audience members to share their responses and new, deeper understandings of restorative philosophy as a lived experience.

Faith Community

The Moran Center has also circled up for restorative trainings with Evanston's faith community. In 2023, Rev. Dr. Michael C.R. Nabors asked us to conduct restorative circle training sessions for close to 20 members of Second Baptist Church in preparation for a series of "Race Talks Solidarity Circles" they were holding with members of Lake Street Church. The Moran Center conducted eight training circles for each group, laying the groundwork for more than 600 interracial healing circles to follow.

Pam Cytrynbaum collaborated with Jude Laude, former ETHS D202 School Board member and Director of Programs for Youth Job Center, on these circles, which participants described as "deeply intentional, thoughtful, and rewarding."



Nonprofit Partners

The Moran Center partners with local nonprofits to help embed restorative practices in their operations and services. The RPRJI team conducted 31 “Healing & Support” circles hosted by Connections for the Homeless and 9 for The Collective.

The [Evanston Collective](#) (“The Collective”) is a network of youth-serving organizations in Evanston - including the Moran Center - designed to leverage our resources and work toward designing an accessible, culturally attuned, and responsive safety net for young people and their families. Strengthening community systems in this way will provide the foundation and resources necessary to foster the healthy development of families with young children, including readiness for kindergarten.



Other Organizations in The Collective include the City of Evanston’s Youth & Young Adult Division, Connections for the Homeless, Curt’s Café, Erie Family Health Centers, Infant Welfare Society of Evanston, PEER Services, Youth Job Center, and Youth & Opportunity United. All staff from all organizations in The Collective come together annually at a summit at the Levy Center to share ideas and strengthen relationships. Together, The Collective works toward designing an accessible, culturally attuned, and responsive community systems to provide the foundation and resources necessary to foster the healthy development of families with young children.



Supporters

Our greatest partner in our work to build a more restorative community *is* our community. The Moran Center is so grateful for ongoing support from gifts designated to the Roger Pascal Restorative Justice Initiative by the donors below.

Visit moran-center.org/donors to meet our full donor community.

ArentFox Schiff
 Kevin and Sandra Byrne
 Cory and Joe Cancila
 Julie Fenton and Stuart Chanen
 Bryna Cytrynbaum
 Pam Cytrynbaum
 Sonny Cytrynbaum and Susan Lee
 Beth Boosalis Davis and Max Davis
 Marci Eisenstein and John Treece
 Elizabeth Beidler Tisdahl Foundation
 Field Foundation of Illinois LLC
 Francis Beidler Foundation
 Mark Friedlander
 George and Ellen Galland
 Donna and William Hannay
 Rachel Hayman and Edward Michael
 Helen Brach Foundation
 David Hodgman
 Richard Hoskins

Justice Advisory Council of Cook County
 Ruth Krugly
 Tom Luning
 Alexander Lurie
 Paul and Margaret Lurie
 Microsoft
 North Shore Youth Philanthropy Board -
 Three Pillars Initiative
 Northwestern University
 Amy Melnicsak and David Pascal
 Missy Pascal
 Chip Peters and Cindy Wilson
 Mikalina Rabinsky
 Beth Levy Reiman and James Reiman
 Gabriel Rodriguez
 Second Baptist Church Evanston
 Debra Stetter
 Jessica Thebus and David O'Donnell
 Robert B. Wilcox

How Much Does it Cost to Hold a Circle?

Each circle is different, depending on the purpose, number of people, and if the circle will be recorded. **The approximate cost of leading one Truth Telling circle is \$2,500**, which includes:

- Compensating Truth Tellers for sharing their lived experience
- Compensating Witnesses in the circle
- Compensating Circle Keeper(s) and facilitator(s)
- Compensating the photographer and/or videographer
- Food and beverages for multi-hour sessions
- Supplies and handouts for the circle
- Rental of the space, if applicable



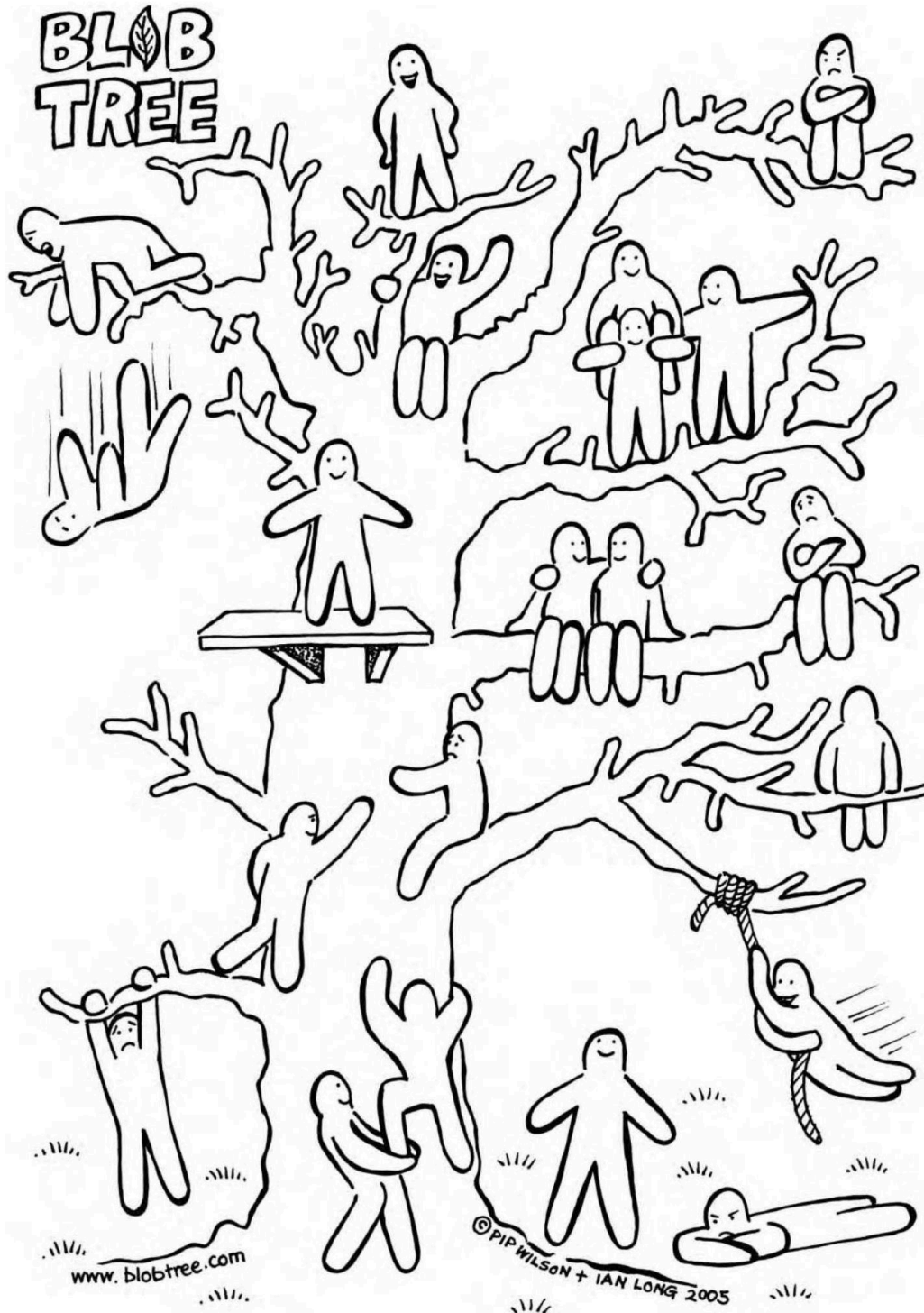
The Moran Center is committed to supporting local, Black-owned businesses as vendors for circles and events, investing back into our community.

How Can I Support the Roger Pascal Restorative Justice Initiative?

The Moran Center is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization offering integrated legal, mental health and restorative services to our community at no cost. All of our programs and services are made possible through financial contributions from individuals, foundations, corporations, and government grants.

The Moran Center accepts charitable donations throughout the year to sustain innovative and critical programs for community well-being like the Roger Pascal Restorative Justice Initiative. If you would like to invest in a more restorative, equitable community, consider making a gift to the Moran Center today.





The Blob Tree is an example of a restorative check-in used at the beginning of circles at the Moran Center. Which one of the blobs most represents your mood at this moment?

Contact Us

James B. Moran Center for Youth Advocacy

1900A Dempster St
Evanston, IL 60201

Client Intake and General Questions

847-492-1410

contact@moran-center.org

Restorative Justice inquiries

Pam Cytrynbaum

847-492-1410 ext. 201

pjc@moran-center.org

Emeric Mazibuko

847-492-1410 ext. 302

emazibuko@moran-center.org

Fundraising Inquiries

Rachel J. Solomon

224-765-0994

rsolomon@moran-center.org

Connect



@morancenter