

# ANNUAL REPORT 2012-13

Restorative Justice Project of the Midcoast

Dear friend,

Thirteen is supposed to be an unlucky number, but 2013 turned out to be a year of transformation and growth at RJP. We head into the new year in the black, with an expanded staff and new revenue sources we've been working toward for years. Here's how it went.

Our big news, of course, was saying goodbye to Margaret Micolichuk, our founding executive director and our spiritual leader. RJP board and staff sat in a large circle at the Shrine Club last fall and exuberantly celebrated Margaret's good work. She is now in Bangkok, Thailand, on a three-month Rotary International Peace Fellowship. When she returns we know she'll be back working for restorative justice.

As we were beginning the search process for Margaret's successor, board member Bill Walch, a career development specialist and consultant with large nonprofits, surprised us by saying he'd volunteer as interim ED for six months. From Day One he has brought energy, focus and a discerning skill to our work, and we are deeply grateful.

Within a month, Bill prepared a 15-page outline that lays out the steps we will take over the next few years to achieve our mission -- to have the capacity to offer restorative services to every juvenile and incarcerated adult in Waldo, Knox, Lincoln and Sagadahoc counties.

In keeping with that vision, we received a \$105,000 grant from the Gorman Foundation to expand our juvenile program into Lincoln and Sagadahoc counties (our new coordinator there, Chris Jones, is now on board). We also received a contract from the state Department of Corrections to fund expanded juvenile services. We hope that's just the beginning.

A series of meetings with supervisors at the re-entry center in Belfast yielded a new agreement that will add more restorative practices to the already innovative program there. Volunteers of America, the Sheriff's Department and RJP will jointly seek outside funding to pay for the expansion, a great sign of progress. In January our new full-time restorative justice coordinator at the center, Michelle Moschkau, joined the staff.

For years we have struggled with quantifying the performance of our programs. Thanks to excellent work by Sarah Mattox and Bill Walch, both state and independent analysts have reported back to us that we are doing better than we -- and they -- thought. Trailblazing work and exciting results are a winning combination.

I noted that we are in the black as we enter the new year. That enviable status is due in part to you, our stalwart supporters, who turned out in record numbers in response to our fall appeal and to new funders like the Gorman Foundation, the Hudson Foundation and the Corrections Department.

A major fundraising event -- the second annual Beat the Winter Blues Bash at Point Lookout -- is just around the corner on March 1. Our staff, volunteers and friends will be rocking with the Juke Rockets, and I hope you'll join us.

It has been a privilege and an honor to work with the extraordinary board members and staff of RJP during this tipping point year. If we all do what we can, and then a little bit more, our future and the lives of scores of juveniles and adults will be transformed.

Thank you for your support.



Jay Davis, RJP Board Chair

## Current Board 2013-2014

Jay Davis, *Chair*  
Judy Mullins, *Vice Chair*  
Lynn Talbot, *Secretary*  
Glen Couturier  
Penny Linn  
Jim Miller  
Kathleen Oliver  
Sarah Rheault  
Marie Underwood  
William Walch

## Board 2012-2013

Jay Davis, *Chair*  
Judy Mullins, *Vice Chair*  
Lynn Talbot, *Secretary*  
Glen Couturier  
Dottie Foote  
Donna Gilbert  
Penny Linn  
Kathleen Oliver  
Sarah Rheault  
T. Richard Snyder  
Marie Underwood  
William Walch

## Current Staff 2013-2014

Chris Jones, *Restorative Services Coordinator*  
Hanlon Kelley, *Volunteer Coordinator*  
Sarah Mattox, *Restorative Services Coordinator*  
Michelle Moschkau, *Reentry Services Coordinator*  
Tim O'Donnell, *Office and Finance Coordinator*  
Denise Pendleton, *Outreach Coordinator*  
William Walch, *Interim Director*

## Staff 2012-13

Barb Blazej, *RSPM Coordinator*  
Sarah Mattox, *Court Diversion Coordinator*  
Margaret Micolichuk, *Director*  
Tim O'Donnell, *Administrative Assistant*  
Denise Pendleton, *Volunteer Development Coordinator*  
Wendy Watson, *Development Director*

*Photo by Rachel Nixon*

The Restorative Justice Project of the Midcoast promotes fundamental change in the justice system and schools. Our responses to crime and wrongdoing seek renewal and safety for the community, support and healing for victims and accountability and reintegration of the offender.

## Good Work at the Re-entry Center

Juliane Dow retired to her hometown of Belfast two years ago expecting to kayak on the bay in the warm months and enjoy life with friends in winter. She became a mentor at the re-entry center, enjoyed the experience and, when an opening occurred in RJP's staff at the center, she offered to fill the position as a volunteer until a full-time staff person could be hired.

A lawyer by training and a high-level higher education administrator through long experience, Juliane took quickly to life inside the center. She got to know the residents and was responsible for matching them with RJP mentors. She helped train mentors and teach the restorative justice class to the residents.

"It's been great," she said recently. "The work is incredibly interesting; the men all have extraordinary life stories that brought them to where they are. A lot of them are actively working on changing their lives, and it's a privilege to be with them in that change, a challenge. They are courageous, and if I can be a helpmate with them, it's very rewarding."

She went on, "In my view, whether an individual is successful in not reoffending is part of the story. But whatever happens, they will have been changed by the experience of being in a relationship they would never have had otherwise with a person they would never have met."

Juliane is continuing to volunteer at the center and is helping train Michelle Moschkau as the new full-time re-entry service coordinator. We thank her loudly and profoundly for her good work.



## Juveniles at Risk: Repairing the Harm

A recent analysis by the State Department of Corrections has revealed that half of the juveniles that have participated in Project-led restorative conferences are at moderate to high-risk from behaviors and circumstances that lead to a life of crime, countering assumptions that the Project has served low-risk, minor offenders.

Yet, even with these higher than expected risk levels, 96 percent in FY 2012-13 met all of the requirements of agreements to repair the harm they have caused. Officials are unaware of any other court diversion or intervention program in the state that is achieving this rate of compliance by juvenile offenders in meeting community service and other obligations, often requiring creative solutions. In some cases, youth have baked and sold pies to raise financial payments required to repair harm.

"For the first time, in partnership with the State, we are getting hard data in support of what we believe from experience works. It will help make our case for broader use and for funding as well as improve our services," according to Sarah Mattox, restorative services coordinator.

## RJP Programs A Glimpse at FY 2012-13 by Numbers

### PREVENTION

#### RJP Restorative School Practices

Training was provided to school staff on building positive school climate, restorative discipline practices, victim/offender mediation and restorative conferencing.

- 340 educators in Maine
- 45 schools and organizations in Maine
- An estimated 450 students in K-12 classrooms

In total, since 2005, RJP has trained more than 1,800 teachers, staff and administrators in restorative practices, impacting 10,635 students in over 200 schools and, in some schools, reducing detentions by 42% and suspensions and expulsions by 72%.

### INTERVENTION

#### RJP Court Diversion & Deferred Disposition

Community resolution conferencing for juveniles & young adults focuses on needs of victims, offender accountability and impact on community, and provides mentors to help offender fulfill restitution and community service requirements.

- 39 victims
- 37 offenders
  - » 30 Juveniles
  - » 7 Young adults (ages 18-24)

#### Offenders have:

- » Raised \$11,347 in restitution payments
- » Contributed 1,147 hours of community service
- » 96% have met the obligations of their repair agreements

Since 2005, over 250 offenders have participated in an RJP Community Resolution Conference; 90% successfully completed their agreements to repair the harm, and had their charges dismissed or reduced. Altogether, they contributed more than 4,000 hours of community service and paid more than \$35,000 in restitution.

### RE-INTEGRATION

#### RJP for Re-entry Residents

Mentoring and restorative justice classes are provided, in partnership with Volunteers of America and the Maine Coast Regional Reentry Center, for Maine state prisoners making the transition back to communities.

- 42 residents admitted into the Reentry Center
- 85% residents matched with RJP volunteer mentors
- 99% of residents attended the Introduction to Restorative Justice class

### COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

#### Volunteer Mentors

Volunteers provide mentoring of re-entry residents and juvenile and young adult participants in the restorative community conferencing programs.

- 47 volunteers attended one of RJP's eight trainings to become mentors

- 3,514 hours were given by volunteer mentors
  - » Court Diversion program: 1,558
  - » Re-entry Residents: 1,955

- 74 active volunteer mentors
  - » 36 mentors for Court Diversion & Deferred Disposition
  - » 36 mentors Re-entry Residents

## FY13 Financial Report July 1, 2012 - June 30, 2013

### FY13 DONOR LIST

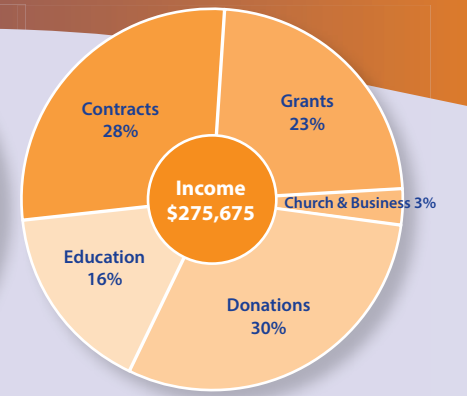
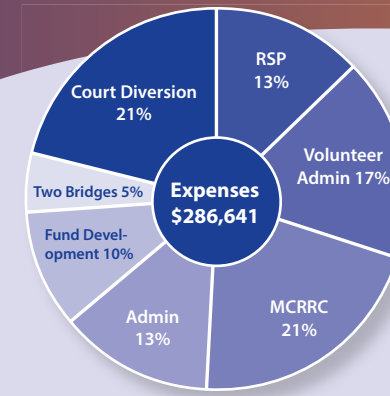
We would like to extend our deepest thanks to the following individuals, foundations, churches, businesses and community groups who have supported RJP between July 1, 2012 and June 30, 2013. Your support helps to change the way justice is done for the betterment of victims, offenders and communities.

Laurie Adams  
Laine Alexander & Jon Kerr  
Alexander & Diane Allmayer-Beck  
Pam Anderson  
Sharon Anderson  
Jan & Dean Anderson  
Bill Armstrong  
Charles & Sarah Arnold  
Tom & Jane Babbitt  
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Bangor Savings Bank  
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Christopher & Charlotte Beebe  
Anne Beebe-Center—  
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Belfast Maskers  
Belfast Co-op  
Donald Berry  
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Barb Blazej  
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Phyllis Coelho  
Cold Mountain Builders  
Colonial Theatre  
Linda Cote-Small  
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Ken & Susan Crane  
William & Gina Gressey  
Marty & Julie Crowe

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Daniel & Carol Daigneault  
Ellie Daniels & Donna Broderick  
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Nancy Davis  
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Carmen Dorsey  
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Bryant & Joan Dutch  
Anne Edmonds  
Carol Ekberg  
Ed & Deb Endl  
Louisa Enright  
Kerry Enright—  
*In Memory of John Enright*  
Suzanne Farley  
Rhonda Feiman & Petra Hall  
Jon Finger & Anne Mahle—  
*In Memory of John Enright*  
First Church of Belfast  
Lane Fisher & Michael Reid  
Liz & Rick Fitzsimmons  
David Flanagan  
Dottie & Charlie Foote  
Jay & Charlotte Foster  
Chrissy Fowler—*In Honor of*  
*All RJP Volunteers and Staff*  
Dick & Joan Foxwell  
Lawrence & Marjorie Franko—  
*In Memory of Barbara Dee*  
Fresh Bakery  
Front Street Shipyard  
James & Donna Gilbert  
Susan Gilbert  
John T. Gorman Foundation  
Brewster & Anne Grace  
Judith Grace & Jeffrey Mabey  
Charlie & Dorothea Graham  
Kathleen Gray  
The Green Store  
Pat Griffith  
Peter Grill—*In Honor of Dick Snyder*  
Douglas & Sondra Hartley  
John Hawthorne  
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*In Memory of John Enright*  
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*In Honor of T. Richard Snyder*  
Rob Hoffman

Sarah Nicholson & Lila Nation  
Meg & Mike Nickerson  
Sheila Nickerson—  
*In Memory of Jannine Cash*  
Wally & Diane O'Brien  
Coleen O'Connell  
Tim & Jewel O'Donnell  
Dot & Scott Odell  
Erin Oldham-LaChance—  
*In Honor of Nan Simpson*  
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*Neil Macmillan & Judy Mullins*  
Bonnie Rukin  
Buck Sawyer & Marsea Ryan  
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Diane Schetky  
Nancy Scovern  
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Cary Slocum & Glenn Montgomery  
Sarah & William Smith  
J.V. & W. B. Smith  
David Smith & Linda Garson Smith  
Sally Smyth & Tom Demarco  
Dick & Cassie Snyder



Wayne & Karen Snyder  
Dick & Cassie Snyder  
Karolyn Snyder  
Arthur Sondheim  
Diedre Sousa  
Susan St. John  
Jay Stager  
James Starkey & Robert Starkey  
Robert & Sarah Stein  
Mike & Judy Stein  
Selma Sternlieb  
Sylvia Stocker  
Jan Summers—  
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Katie Syrett—  
*In Memory of Jannine Cash*  
Lynn Talbot  
Dale Tempesta  
Mary Thompson—  
*In Memory of Jannine Cash*  
Dave Towers—  
*In Memory of John Enright*  
Leah Trommer  
Marie Underwood  
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UU Church of Belfast  
UU Church of Brunswick  
Umission LLC  
Vassalboro Quarterly Meeting of Friends  
Bonnie VersbonCoeur  
Viking Building Supplies & Lumber, Inc.  
Lillie Vitelli & Donald Mansius  
Christine & David Wakely  
Bill & Marlene Walch  
Sharron Walsh  
Lee Webb  
Adele Welch  
Penelope West  
Michael Westcott  
Francie Wheeler-Berta—  
*In Memory of John Enright*  
Ollie & Pauline Wilder  
Katrinka Wilder  
Mariah Williams  
Kyle Williams  
Kate Winters & Joel Kruger  
Patricia Winters  
Susan Wood

We strive to ensure accuracy. If you have been overlooked or your name has been misspelled, we apologize and please call us at (207) 338-2742.

**Restorative Justice Project of the Midcoast**

P.O. Box 141

Belfast, ME 04915



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2012-13

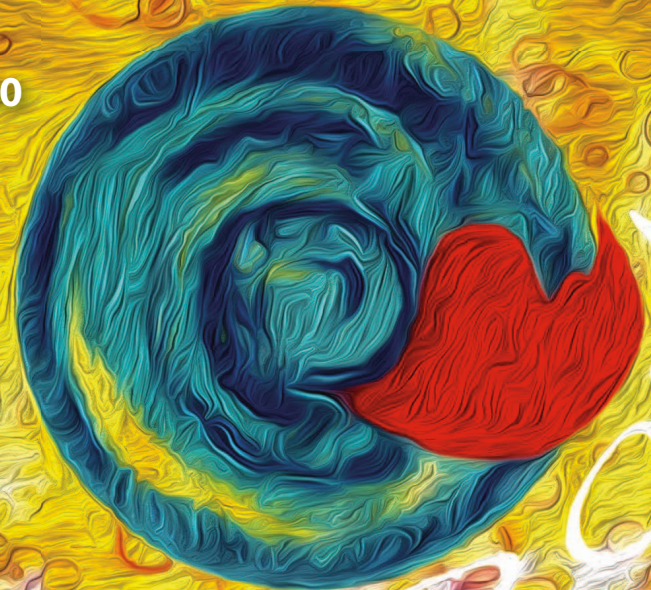
## **You're Invited!**

**Saturday, March 1, 2014 from 7-10:30**  
**Point Lookout, Lincolnville**

**Join us to support the Restorative Justice Project—Chase those winter blues away and enjoy delicious food tastings from gourmet restaurants.**

**MAJOR UNDERWRITER**  
**Bangor Savings Bank**

**MAJOR BENEFACTORS**  
**Cold Mountain Builders**  
**Viking Inc.**



# Beat The Winter Blues Bash

[www.rjpmidcoast.org](http://www.rjpmidcoast.org)