



news

Colorado Judicial Branch
Michael L. Bender, Chief Justice
Gerald Marroney, State Court Administrator

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Three restorative justice practitioners appointed to the Colorado Restorative Justice Council

DENVER – The Colorado Judicial Department announced today that State Court Administrator Gerald Marroney has appointed three new practitioner members to the Restorative Justice Council of Colorado. The appointees are Alice Price of Alamosa, Lynn Lee of Colorado Springs and Peggy Evans of the Denver metro area. Marroney made the appointments pursuant to HB13-1254.

“It is my pleasure to make these appointments to the Colorado Restorative Justice Council,” Marroney said. “These individuals have made valuable contributions to restorative justice programs in their communities and I am confident they will have positive impacts on the statewide level.”

The Colorado Restorative Justice Council advances restorative justice principles and practices throughout Colorado by providing a gateway to information, networking and support.

Price, a mediator and trainer since 1983, began working in restorative justice in 1992. She is associated with the Center for Restorative Justice Programs in Alamosa. The Center is a partner of the 12th Judicial District and one of the four restorative justice pilot projects in Colorado implemented through juvenile diversion.

“My vision for restorative justice is for it to become a cornerstone in the philosophy and practices of juvenile justice and school discipline in both urban and rural communities,” Price said.

Lee, who spent 15 years teaching special education in middle and high schools in the Widefield School District, began working in restorative justice in 2001. She is the current chair of the Pikes Peak Restorative Justice Council in Colorado Springs.

“I believe that the principles and practices of Restorative Justice are integral to my everyday life,” Lee said. “I strive to integrate those into my relationships with family, community, friends and others whom I come into contact with. I envision a Colorado where both juveniles and adults have an opportunity to repair the harm they've done before being sent to the justice system. I envision a Colorado where enough individuals understand and utilize the language of Restorative Justice to resolve conflicts peacefully in their community.”

Evans has been involved with restorative justice since 1992 and has worked on a variety of programs and projects. She is currently an independent restorative justice facilitator in the Denver metro area.

“I want to see restorative justice promoted as a philosophy and set of practices and ultimately become a behavioral norm in society,” Evans said. “Restorative justice should be a standard practice in the juvenile and criminal justice systems and available for all interested victims.”

Restorative Justice is an approach to crime and wrongdoing that not only engages victims, offenders and their affected communities, but it is in fact governed by these three stakeholders. Restorative justice is about turning attention and resources toward first, recognizing harms experienced through crime, and then creating the conditions for that harm to be repaired, with a focus on righting relationships which have been thrown out of balance through harmful actions.

The Restorative Justice Council's mandate is to provide assistance and education related to restorative justice programs in the state of Colorado by supporting the development of restorative justice programs, serving as a repository of information for those programs, and providing restorative justice education, training and technical assistance. The committee has appointees from all areas of Colorado government - the juvenile justice system, division of youth corrections, department of public safety, judicial department, non-profit restorative justice groups, district attorneys, victim's advocates and the department of education.

For more information on Restorative Justice Colorado, please visit: <http://www.restorativejusticecolorado.org/index.html> or contact Council Chair Greg Brown, chief probation officer for the 20th Judicial District (greg.brown@judicial.state.co.us).