

QUARTERLY REPORT

The latest news and updates from Calm Mediation Restorative Justice Service



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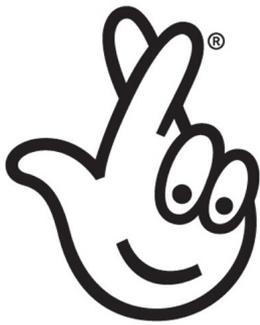
**MONITORING
SUMMARY (Q3)**

Celebrating 15 years of service

by our Director, Corinne Rechais

In this issue we want to pay tribute to Fiona Turner who has done so much for the Restorative Justice service at Calm Mediation between 2004 and 2017.

Fiona started the service from nothing at a time when Restorative Justice was in its infancy in the UK and she had many doors to open; Police, Probation, Prison, Victim Support and many more. She persevered and made strong links with these services encouraging them to see the benefits of RJ. To ensure the standards and quality Calm has become known for in the provision of RJ, Fiona developed our accredited training course in conjunction with Janet Clark (read about a student's experience of our training in 'Learning to Restore' on page 2)



NATIONAL LOTTERY FUNDED

SUPPORT BETWEEN 2009 AND 2019

Learning to Restore

by Nikhil Roy

I first learnt about the importance of Restorative Justice (RJ) while working on issues relating to penal and prison reform many years ago. It struck me then as a very progressive justice delivery system, allowing for the voices of victims to be heard while ensuring perpetrators understood and acknowledged the harm done.

When I learnt about the training opportunity being offered by Calm Mediation, I was naturally keen to get on the course. There was a form to fill, then an interview, followed by a letter confirming I had a place on the course. I was delighted!

I had three main expectations from the course:

- Understanding better theoretical concepts underpinning RJ
- Exploring opportunities to put theory into practice
- Building my own skill levels to enable me to become a practitioner

Suffice to say all my expectations were more than fulfilled. The theoretical overview was compelling, setting out a vision for delivering justice which put individuals at the heart of the system, addressed wider societal needs and worked towards repairing the damage caused. It became clear as the course progressed that multiple opportunities exist for

All of this work was enabled by the support of The Big Lottery which paved the way for the London Victims and Witness Service we are part of today. We thank Fiona Turner for her years of hard work.

Fiona is a great asset to Calm Mediation and we are pleased not to have lost her expertise as she continues to coordinate cases for our Community Mediation Service part-time.



RJ PRACTITIONER TRAINING

putting RJ into practice across London and the UK more widely. Increased awareness and understanding of RJ means individuals, institutions, local authorities and the full range of criminal justice agencies are all keen to implement the system.

The best part of the course was reserved for last, when all trainees were required to practice delivering a RJ Conference from inception to final agreement between parties. Daunting? Yes! Very much like setting off alone in a car the first time soon after getting a driving licence. But the instructors were on hand to keep a watchful eye on all the trainees, providing helpful feedback after each completed session.

The training was exceptional. I now look forward with confidence (and of course some trepidation) to getting started with my first Conference. For this my sincere thanks to Calm Mediation!

Huddersfield University and Calm Mediation



EVALUATING THE RJ SERVICE 2015-2019

This month an independent researcher from Huddersfield University has begun an evaluation of the RJ cases between 2015 and 2019 which were funded by the Big Lottery. It aims to:

- give an overview of the types of cases referred
- explore case progression
- highlight areas of good practice and potentially surmountable barriers to case progression

Dr Nadia Wager is a Reader in Forensic Psychology at the University of Huddersfield (and previously University of Bedfordshire and Buckinghamshire New University). She was awarded a PhD in Applied Social Psychology from Brunel in 2002 and has been lecturing in Forensic Psychology and Victimology for 19 years. She has a long history of evaluating community interventions for victims of serious crimes whilst working in partnership with those delivering the services.

This has included the evaluation of an Independent Trauma Advisor service for victims of modern day slavery and evaluation of the co-production of Victim Supports' service to adult survivors of child sexual abuse.

Her primary areas of research interest are sexual victimisation, positive survivorship and restorative justice and she has published a number of articles on the application of restorative justice in cases of serious interpersonal crimes, some of which we will be sharing on social media in the coming months.

Monitoring Summary

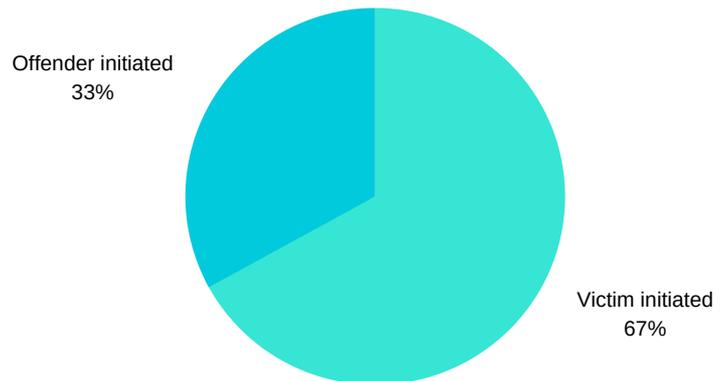
by RJ Service Manager, Julie Clark

We would like to share some figures from the year to date: April – December 2019 (Q1-Q3)

New referrals

New referrals received: 66

79% were Enhanced Priority Referrals (EPR)



Case outcome summary

Completed cases = 47

Outcomes/onward referral = 21

45% have received meaningful support / onward referral to specialist services

Conference = 2

Indirect Conference = 2

Letter = 0 (letters have however, been an element of outcome agreements arising from Conference/Indirect Conference)

Restorative conversation = 3

Onward referral = 14

Victim meetings = 22

Offender meetings = 10

Victim contact = 212

Offender contact = 120