

Curious about speaking . . .

St. Croix Valley Restorative Justice relies on community members who are willing to tell their stories. Victims, offenders and community members all have perspectives that can be used to encourage others to “change behavior by a change of heart.”



In addition to incidents of property and conduct crimes, SCVRJP addresses underage consumption, impaired driving, safe driving and suicide. Volunteers are recruited to be storytellers at impact panels and talking circles.

SCVRJP will provide you support and training regarding effective storytelling.

There are simple steps to becoming a storyteller, beginning with attending a volunteer orientation session to see if the approach and philosophy of Restorative Justice is a match for you. SCVRJP Executive Director Kris Miner will provide an individual or group session highlighting effective storytelling and tips on public speaking.

After learning the four bases in restorative storytelling, speakers move to rehearsal or practice sessions. Most speakers start with small groups or circle sessions.

You have control over your speaking schedule. Many speakers find storytelling both frightening and beneficial. Your story is yours and you know it best. SCVRJP accepts speakers whose incidents were in the past year or in the past decade (or longer).

Restorative Justice stories are about how a person was impacted -- physically, emotionally, mentally and spiritually. SCVRJP is seeking volunteers whose lives have been tragically impacted by impaired driving (under the influence of drugs or alcohol, cell phone use, speeding, lack of seatbelt use). Volunteering in this way allows for some good to come out of a really bad situation.

SCVRJP works with audiences to provide a non-judgmental environment for speakers. We ask that you present your story in an inclusive manner, speaking from the heart. SCVRJP supports and works with all of our speakers to assure the experience is healing. There is no obligation to speak; you can attend any session to explore this type of volunteering.

Please see the SCVRJP website for the next speaker orientation session! www.scvrjp.org

Steps to becoming a speaker:

- 1.) Orientation to Restorative Justice.
- 2.) RJ storytelling tips and approach.
- 3.) Poster boards for speaking
- 4.) Attending a session to observe storytelling/volunteering.
- 5.) Individual & small group rehearsal session.
- 6.) Public speaking/storytelling in Circle of Panel
- 7.) Support & Feedback