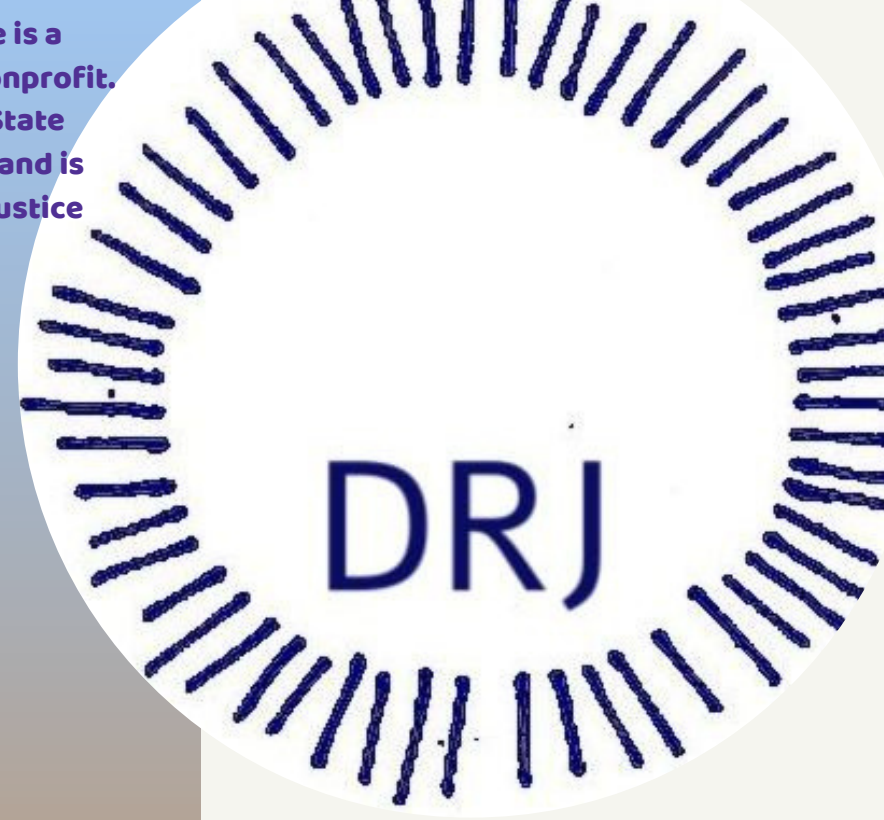




Downeast Restorative Justice is a Worker Self-Directed 501(c)(3) Nonprofit. DRJ collaborates County and State wide with other organizations, and is part of the Maine Restorative Justice Coalition (MERJ)



**"I am because we are."
Zulu Proverb**

Donations welcomed.

DRJ engages in equitable community-based practices.

We are indebted to, and acknowledge the Indigenous roots of circle keeping which, here in Maine, remains a continuous live practice amongst the Wabanaki Confederacy, please visit: <https://www.mainewabanakireach.org>

Contact Us

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-  **Downeast**
-  **Restorative**
-  **Justice**
-  School and
Community Supports

Restorative Practices

Restorative Practices nurtures a culture of inclusion and connection, mutual respect and dignity, so that belonging, equality, choice and voice can thrive. We use circle practice to check in and connect from inside schools and organizations, town meetings and private offices, to places of worship and family get togethers.

If we notice that some are struggling, we can use a circle to support. To ask what they are having a hard time with, what they need, where their strengths lie, and what support they may like to have. Circles allow us to empathize and support each other.



In our work of harm repair and empowering community, DRJ recognizes the connected relevance of naming root causes and the need of working on changing underlying conditions and societal cycles of harm that lead to disenfranchisement & individual harmful acts.

- **What Happened?**
- **What were you thinking & feeling at the time?**
- **What have you been thinking and feeling since then?**
- **Who has been affected and how?**
- **What can be done to make it right?**

THE FIVE RESTORATIVE QUESTIONS

Restorative Justice

When a violation is committed and harm is done, Restorative Justice (RJ) pulls together all the people connected to the harm, their support people, and community members in a collective decision making circle where the group will talk about the harm, how it impacted others and how to best repair and resolve the harm. We ask all participants the **five restorative questions**. RJ solves problems and repairs harm in a non-punitive, non-adversarial process which can facilitate a path to healing.

DRJ accepts referrals from anyone.

From individuals, organizations, case managers and other professionals, to the Court, Office of the District Attorney or Department of Corrections, our trauma informed and healing centered facilitators will support and guide participants through our processes.

Schools

Downeast Restorative Justice (DRJ) provides trainings, presentations and coaching to schools in Hancock and Washington Counties.

RESTORATIVE PRACTICES

DRJ supports the use of restorative practices in schools (which leads to positive school culture). Using community circles and tools such as affective statement and other responsive classroom methods help to build positive school culture.

RESTORATIVE POLICES

DRJ promotes the use of restorative policies that do not necessarily separate youth from school (e.g. suspensions, etc.), holding them accountable, yet connected to school.

RESTORATIVE SUPPORT, ACCOUNTABILITY AND HARM REPAIR

DRJ facilitates Accountability and Support Circles in schools. Disruptive and other negative behaviors that can lead to suspension or expulsion are approached in a process that looks at the impact of these behaviors while assessing the needs of the participant(s), the school community and those affected, For meaningful change, it seeks to address the root causes of problem behaviors.