VORP Relies on YOU!

Please don’t wait. VORP can only grow if financial support grows. If you aren’t actively supporting VORP with volunteer time, prayer, or financial support, we are praying that this will be the year you start.

The need is great!

VORP now starting its 17th year in Fresno, happens because of the efforts of many people. The primary support and initiative for VORP has come from churches and individuals who understand and care that God’s desire is for people to experience shalom, peace and justice as a result of God’s activity. We call this larger group process a Community Justice Conference (CJC). If all are willing, the VORP mediator leads the group in justice and peacemaking process:

1. Recognize the injustices (tell/listen/clarify/summarize the event its impact, offender accepts responsibility);
2. Restore the equity or balance between them as much as possible (agree on what can be done to make things as right as possible now – realizing that to some extent this is always symbolic, restoring equity is a combination of restitution and grace);
3. Clarify future intentions (establish plans, commitments, and accountability process for a safer, more respectful, and more just future).

When all individuals in the group agree that this process has been completed, forgiveness and reconciliation begin to happen and trust starts to grow. Victim, offender, and community members experience restoration and reintegration. Follow-up is essential because as agreements are kept, trust grows.

1998 Review

VORP is a community building process by Ron Claassen

VORP is a community building process. VORP is a character building process. VORP clarifies and strengthens community values. VORP is a peacemaking process. VORP helps create safer communities. VORP is a way of doing justice.

Trained VORP volunteers arrange and facilitate meetings which range from a minimum of 3 or 4 people (victim, offender and offender’s parent or other responsible adult if juvenile offender) to 20 people (adding extended family, victim support, neighborhood and faith community representatives, and government representatives). We call this larger group process a Community Justice Conference (CJC). If all are willing, the VORP mediator leads the group in a justice and peacemaking process:

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42 Churches Are Sustaining Friends with VORP

Friends with VORP

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VORP Board of Directors Assesses Both Financial and Policy Responsibility

VORP is organized as a non-profit, public benefit corporation that is guided by a board of directors who come from a wide range of churches in the area. Board members shoulder significant responsibility so that hundreds can serve as mediators and thousands of victims and offenders can have the opportunity to experience Restorative Justice.

Volunteer VORP Mediators who have given up personal time to help victims, offenders, and those who have served in the past.

Volunteer VORP Mediators Learn and practice peacemaking skills they can use in the home, workplace, and community. Next trainings are scheduled on April 23 & 24; and June 25 & 26. Call VORP at 291-1120 for details.

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