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Restorative Reentry: Application of Restorative Justice Values and Principles

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ASACCU Conference Proposal University of Dayton July 16-19, 2019

Presenter:

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University of San Diego 5998 Alcala Park San Diego, CA 92110

Session Title:

Restorative Reentry: Application of Restorative Justice Values and Principles

Brief Description:

"Reentry" refers to the transition faced by those returning to the university after being suspended due to their conduct. Those experiencing this reentry may describe themselves as feeling isolated, marginalized, and alone in their efforts to reestablish themselves. "Restorative reentry" seeks to apply the values and principle of "relational justice" (i.e., community and restorative justice) philosophy in ways that improve the odds of reentry success by providing ways to live in community safely, stably, and successfully. It offers constructive ways to address conflict, repair harm and reconnect as a community. This session will provide an overview of restorative justice and then focus on how one Catholic university has implemented reentry circles in its work with students returning from suspension.

Connection to Theme:

This session shares how one university has begun offering a program to students returning from university suspension. Reentry circles are intended to honor the dignity of students who may experience shame, vulnerability, and separateness from the university community. The process seeks to give them voice in determining their goals for returning to campus and then provides accompaniment in the process of their return by introducing them to new mentors, resources, and helping them make sense out of their reentry experience. This program seeks to address the needs of a small and unique population on campus and in this way, it embodies the conference theme of "developing leaders for the common good".

Principles:

- 1. Welcomes all students into a vibrant campus community that celebrates God's love for all.
- 2. Creates opportunities for students to experience, reflect, and act from a commitment to justice, mercy, and compassion, and in light of Catholic social teaching to develop respect and responsibility for all, especially those most in need.
- 3. Challenges students to high standards of personal behavior and responsibility through the formation of character and virtues.

Outline:

Method of delivery will be a case study as a pseudo-lecture format. I will present an overview of restorative justice followed by institutional, departmental, and program information. I will then walk through three case-studies to give the audience an opportunity to see how this practice has been implemented and what the challenges and strengths have been. Time at the end will be reserved for Q&A.

- 5/5 Welcome and Overview of University of San Diego
- 10/15 Overview of Restorative Justice and "Whole Campus Approach" framework
- 10/25 Why Rentry Circles and overview of our process
- 10/35 Case Study #1: Kevin (alcohol)
- 10/45 Case Study #2: Katie (alcohol)
- 10/55 Case Study #3: Patrick (sexual misconduct)
- 5/60 Questions

Intended Audience: All

Presentation Requirements: A/V, lecture style