

Restorative justice for road trauma

Narrative practices to facilitate healing and justice

Katie Christensen & Melanie Joosten

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Open Circle Program Staff



Katie Christensen
Lead Facilitator



Renee Handsaker
Practice Lead



Stan Winford
Facilitator



Melanie Joosten
Program Manager



Phoebe Barton
Facilitator



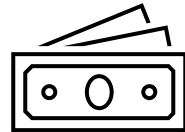
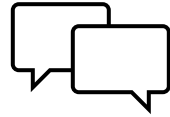
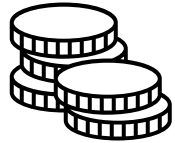
James Davis
Systems & Project
Coordinator



income
relationships
wellbeing
disability grief injury
care trauma agency
future loss stress
independence
autonomy



What does justice look like?



TAC Restorative Justice Program Overview

The TAC Restorative Justice Program is a voluntary program that is designed to meet a client's specific needs.

The program is delivered in partnership with Open Circle at the Centre for Innovative Justice at RMIT University. Open Circle is an experienced restorative justice service that helps bring people together to acknowledge and respond to experiences of harm.

The TAC Restorative Justice Program is an opportunity for a client to communicate with the other person or people involved in the transport accident.

The program can also support TAC clients who are interested in exploring prevention and advocacy options through a restorative practice lens.



How restorative justice can help

- Share how life has changed since the accident, with the other person involved.
- Hear from the other person involved in the accident and understand more about what happened and why.
- Express remorse for their actions and/or offer an apology.
- Honour the memory of a person who has lost their life in a transport accident.
- Share their experience and tell their story, to help prevent similar situations in the future.



TAC program streams

Facilitated Dialogue

- Meeting with another person involved in the accident.
- Face-to-face, online or letter exchange.
- Confidential and not linked to person's legal or other processes.
- Voluntary for all – other party is invited to participate.

Prevention & Advocacy

- When the participant does not want to (or cannot) involve the other person.
- Narrative-based interview.
- Stories of multiple participants brought together in one document.
- Collective document can be used to support prevention and advocacy activities.



Narrative practice

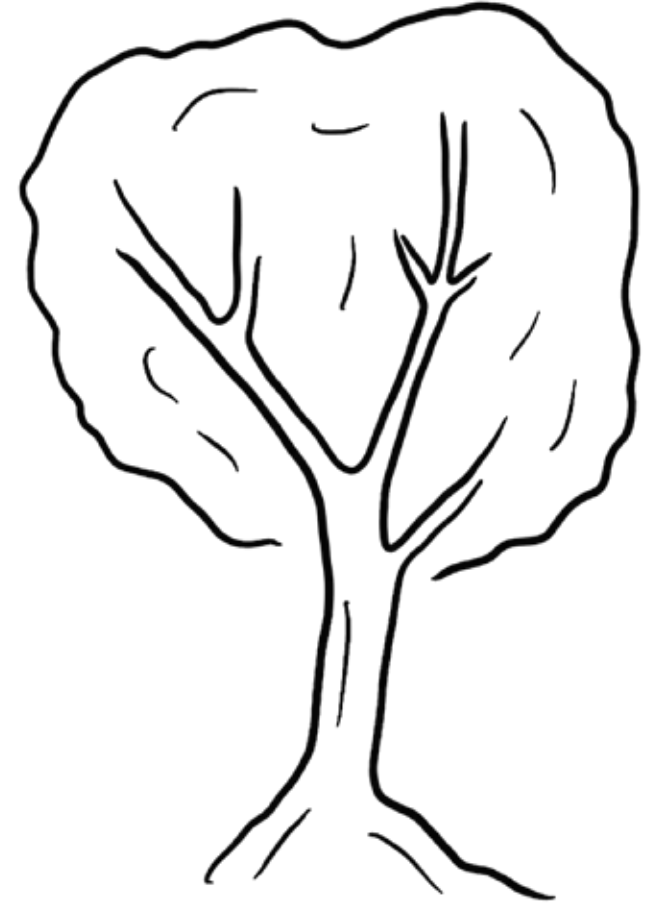


- Each person is the expert in their own life
- We create meaning in our lives through the stories we tell ourselves
- Each person has values, commitments and hopes that can help them navigate their preferred responses to the problems they face.



Strong story

Giving voice to strong stories that can sit alongside the experience of harm can be an antidote to feelings of shame, helplessness or worthlessness that may have arisen.



Performance of values and identity

*"When suffering happens,
we need to do our best not
to make it any worse"*

David



Acts of memorialisation

Honouring a loved one through a restorative justice process is an opportunity to consider more deeply a person's legacy, relationships and the impact of their loss.

Acts of memorialisation and honouring can include:

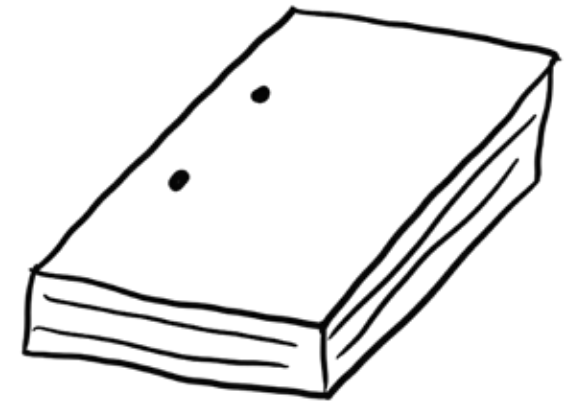
- talking about the person they were and acknowledging the impact of this loss
- their legacy
- exploration of external acts that honour their loved one.



Narrative interviews/collective document

A collective document allows people to share their experience without continually returning to the trauma, to be identified with it or to be individually responsible for advocacy activities related to it.

Collective documents may be used to support systemic, cultural or behaviour change to prevent future harm.



Questions?