



REGIONAL RED DEER
Restorative Justice Society

Sponsorship Package

While some restorative justice initiatives serve specific communities or populations, RRDRJ is the only organization in Central Alberta that offers a community-wide restorative justice pathway, accessible to all individuals and families.

This package outlines why this work matters, how it is held, and how sponsorship supports the conditions that make restoration possible.



Why This Work Exists

When harm happens, the response often moves faster than the understanding.

- People are told what they did wrong.
- People talk about them, often without them in the room.
- The person harmed may never be heard.
- The person responsible may never fully understand the impact of their actions, or how to make things right.

What people tell us, again and again, is this:

“No one actually asked me what happened.”

“I didn’t know how much it affected them.”

“I wanted to fix it, but I didn’t know how.”

Restorative justice exists to slow that moment down, and bring people back into relationship. RRDRJ creates space where:

- the person harmed can speak, be heard, and be supported
- people who caused harm are invited into accountability, not labelled and discarded
- responsibility is learned through understanding, not fear
- relationships and community are repaired rather than fractured

This work only happens when the organization holding it is trusted, steady, and present.



What is Restorative Justice?

Restorative justice is a way of responding to harm that centres people, responsibility, and repair, rather than punishment, silence, or removal.

When harm occurs, traditional systems often focus on rules broken and consequences imposed.

Restorative justice asks different questions:

- Who was harmed, and what do they need?
- Who caused the harm, and what responsibility do they need to take?
- How can the harm be repaired, as much as possible, within community?

At RRDRJ, restorative justice is not a shortcut or a “soft option.” It is often harder than punishment. It requires **honesty, accountability, listening, and the courage to stay** in relationship when things are uncomfortable.

Repair
harm
Restore
relationships
Build
community



What This Looks Like For Youth

Restorative justice creates structured, supported spaces where:

- people harmed can share the impact of what happened, be heard, and have their needs taken seriously
- young people who caused harm are supported to understand the impact of their actions and take responsibility in meaningful ways
- families, schools, and community members can be part of the repair, rather than pushed to the sidelines

Participation is voluntary.

Safety and consent are central.

No one is forced to forgive or reconcile.

For many youth, this is the first time:

- an adult actually listens
- they understand why their actions mattered
- they are given a real way to repair harm

That experience changes trajectories.

This work cannot be rushed or automated. It requires time, care, preparation, and consistency. That is why organizational stability matters.

Our Focus For 2026

In 2026, RRDRJ is focused on protecting the conditions that allow voice, accountability, and repair to exist, especially when systems are under pressure to move quickly and punitively.

Everything we ask sponsors to support connects to three core goals.



Ensure people harmed and people responsible for the harm have access to restorative options.

For many participants, restorative justice is the first time they are:

- asked what happened from their perspective
- supported to hear how their actions affected others
- given a real opportunity to repair harm

For people harmed, it may be the first time they are:

- believed
- listened to without being rushed
- given choice and agency in how they participate

RRDRJ is the only restorative justice program in Central Alberta offering a community-wide pathway, open to anyone regardless of background or circumstance.

Sponsorship ensures responses to harm include voice, choice, and dignity.

Goal One: Access



Protect trauma-informed, human-centred restorative practice.

People often arrive carrying:

- fear
- shame
- confusion
- and little trust in systems or authority

Quality restorative practice means:

- taking time to build safety
- preparing people to take responsibility without being overwhelmed
- ensuring the person harmed is not re-traumatized
- holding the process steady so participants are not left to manage it alone

Sponsorship prevents rushed, unsafe, or tokenistic processes and ensures accountability is meaningful, not performative.

Goal Two: Quality & Safety



Strengthen relationships so people don't get lost in the system.

People don't exist in isolation. They are part of:

- families
- schools
- workplaces
- teams
- communities

Restoration is not just about resolving a single incident. It's about what happens next.

RRDRJ works with:

- RCMP
- schools
- community partners

to create responses where people are:

- supported to learn and change
- kept connected rather than pushed out
- seen as capable of growth, not defined by one moment

Sponsorship helps keep people connected to community, rather than pushed toward exclusion or criminalization.

Goal Three: Community Connection



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Sponsorship Levels and Our Commitment

Sponsorship at RRDRJ is about standing with work that is relational, careful, and deeply human. When harm occurs, people don't just need a process. They need time, safety, and someone steady enough to hold the moment without rushing it. Sponsorship helps create those conditions.

Rather than funding individual programs or isolated activities, sponsorship supports the capacity that makes restorative justice possible: preparation, facilitation, follow-up, and the relationships that connect it all.

What Sponsorship **Makes Possible**

Sponsorship allows RRDRJ to:

- meet people where they are, without rushing them through a process
- prepare participants so accountability is meaningful and safe
- support people harmed without pressure or expectation
- ensure repair is followed through, not just agreed to
- remain present and accessible across the entire community

This steadiness is what allows restorative justice to work, especially when systems are under pressure to move quickly or punitively.



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Sponsorship Levels and Our Commitment

How Sponsorship is Recognized

Recognition reflects partnership and shared values, not promotion. Sponsors are acknowledged through RRDRJ's existing work - participant resources, training materials, community presentations, and public education - in ways that are appropriate, respectful, and aligned with restorative principles.

Recognition is:

- proportional to the level of support
- embedded into existing materials and platforms
- always secondary to participant safety, dignity, and consent

RRDRJ does not offer naming rights, branded programs, or influence over restorative processes.

Choosing a Sponsorship Level

Each sponsorship level reflects a different way of supporting restorative justice, from ensuring people are heard, to sustaining the work for the long term. The following pages outline these levels and how partnership is acknowledged at each stage of the restorative journey.

Listening Partner



Recognition:

- Acknowledgement in participant intake packages, participant information resources, prep documents
- Inclusion on RRDRJ website and annual report
- Inclusion in general partner updates

Our messaging around this sponsorship:

Public/Outward Messaging:

It's important that anyone who enters the RJ process feels heard, and supported. Thanks to sponsors like [Sponsor Name] we are able to meet people where they are, listen to their stories and help them take the first steps toward understanding and repair.

Internal/Participant Facing Recognition:

This restorative process is supported by community partners who believe that being heard is the first step toward repair. We acknowledge [Sponsor Name] for supporting access to restorative justice in our community.

Voice Partner



Recognition:

- Acknowledgement in participant intake resources, participant information resources, prep documents facilitator guides, training materials, preparation resources
- Inclusion on RRDRJ website and annual report
- Inclusion in general partner updates

Our messaging around this sponsorship:

Public/Outward Messaging:

Restorative justice only works when people feel safe enough to speak honestly. Support from partners like [Sponsor Name] helps ensure that youth and people harmed have the time, preparation, and care needed to share their experiences and be met with dignity.

Internal/Participant Facing Recognition:

This work is made possible through partnerships that value voice, choice, and dignity. We acknowledge [Sponsor Name] for supporting meaningful participation in restorative processes.

Repair Partner



Recognition:

- Acknowledgement in participant intake resources, participant information resources, prep documents facilitator guides, training materials, preparation resources, facilitation tools, follow-up resources, community education materials (including social media)
- Inclusion on RRDRJ website and annual report
- Inclusion in general partner updates

Our messaging around this sponsorship:

Public/Outward Messaging:

Repair takes more than good intentions — it takes time, skill, and care. Thanks to partners like [Sponsor Name], we're able to hold restorative processes that support accountability, safety, and meaningful follow-through.

Internal/Participant Facing Recognition:

Meaningful repair requires preparation, accountability, and support. We acknowledge [Sponsor Name] for helping ensure restorative processes are held with care and integrity.

Community Partner



Recognition:

- Acknowledgement in participant intake resources, participant information resources, prep documents facilitator guides, training materials, preparation resources, facilitation tools, follow-up resources, community education materials (including social media), training materials, presentation materials, banners, outreach services
- Inclusion on RRDRJ website and annual report
- Inclusion in general partner updates

Our messaging around this sponsorship:

Public/Outward Messaging:

Restorative justice doesn't live in isolation. It lives in community. Support from partners like [Sponsor Name] helps keep restorative justice visible, accessible, and trusted across Central Alberta.

Internal/Participant Facing Recognition:

This work is supported by community partners committed to connection, learning, and restoration. We acknowledge [Sponsor Name] for strengthening restorative justice in our region.

Restoration Partner



Recognition:

- Acknowledgement in participant intake resources, participant information resources, prep documents, facilitator guides, training materials, preparation resources, facilitation tools, follow-up resources, community education materials (including social media), training materials, presentation materials, banners, outreach services, organizational materials, major reports, leadership resources
- Inclusion on RRDRJ website and annual report
- Inclusion in general partner updates

Our messaging around this sponsorship:

Public/Outward Messaging:

Restorative justice requires steadiness, especially when systems are under pressure. Partners like [Sponsor Name] help ensure this work remains available, ethical, and responsive for the long term.

Internal/Participant Facing Recognition:

We acknowledge [Sponsor Name] for their stewardship of restorative justice and their commitment to sustaining safe, community-based responses to harm.



How to Become a Sponsor

Step 1: Choose a Sponsorship Level

Review the sponsorship levels outlined in this package and consider how your organization would like to support restorative justice in Central Alberta.

Each level reflects a different way of standing with this work — from ensuring people are heard, to sustaining restorative justice for the long term.

If you're unsure which level is the best fit, we're happy to talk it through.

Step 2: Connect With Us

We welcome a conversation to:

- answer questions
- confirm alignment
- discuss how recognition will be integrated respectfully
- ensure the partnership reflects restorative values

There is no obligation attached to an initial conversation.

Step 3: Confirm Sponsorship

Once a sponsorship level is confirmed, RRDRJ will:

- provide a simple sponsorship confirmation
- outline recognition details aligned with your level
- confirm timing and payment options

Sponsorships are typically recognized over a one-year period, with flexibility where needed.



Let's Do This Together

Step 4: Partnership in Practice

After confirmation:

- recognition is integrated thoughtfully into RRDRJ's existing materials and platforms
- sponsors receive periodic updates on the work they are supporting
- all recognition is handled with care, discretion, and respect for participant safety

Sponsorship does not involve branding control, naming rights, or influence over restorative processes.

Ready to Talk?

If you're interested in becoming a sponsor, or learning more about how restorative justice is held in Central Alberta, we'd welcome the conversation.

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