



Help us create a more just community in Waterloo Region and beyond.

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Make a donation by calling 519-744-6549 or give online at www.cjiwr.com

Guided by restorative justice principles, CJI addresses conflict and crime by engaging people who cause harm, people affected by the harm, and the community.



Community Justice Initiatives

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www.cjiwr.com

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Our funding partners include: United Way Kitchener-Waterloo Area, Ontario Trillium Foundation, Provincial Ministries, Federal Ministries, and our other generous partners, many of whom choose to remain anonymous.



Facilitated Dialogue

This process for individuals and families impacted by sexual trauma helps to heal broken relationships through guided conversations.

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Creating Safe Space for Challenging Conversations.



Facilitated Dialogue

CJI's Facilitated Dialogue (FD) process is a unique opportunity for people who have been impacted by sexual violence to continue in their healing process.

Recognizing that most sexual violence occurs within relationships, FD works to heal these broken relationships through conversations guided by trained staff/volunteers who specialize in the areas of sexual trauma and sexual offending behaviour.

I am profoundly grateful for CJI's Revive program. When my daughter disclosed her abuse, I had no idea what to do. I wanted something restorative but also safe. I wanted sensitivity without approving of the harm. I wanted a trauma-informed restorative approach, which I didn't think existed! (Revive Staff members') expertise in survivorship, sexual offending, and restorative justice created a safe harbour for us to have the most difficult conversation in our family's history. Thank You.

— Facilitated Dialogue participant

I experienced CJI facilitators as multi-partial, rather than impartial. They held the needs of all participants equally. They did not seem detached, rather it seemed that they cared for us, all of us, and for our family — that was incredibly helpful and healing.

— Facilitated Dialogue participant

How Facilitated Dialogue Works

FD provides an opportunity for individuals and families to come together in a safe way to be heard, develop understanding and find a way to move forward through the devastation of sexual trauma.

The FD process can include a survivor of sexual trauma, the person who harmed them, as well as others affected by the abuse, like siblings, parents, close friends and partners.

Due to the complexity of these situations, FD usually involves several meetings and/or other forms of contact – often over a period of months.

In preparation for a FD, trained facilitators meet with each participant in advance to ensure safety and respect for all involved. When the participants are ready, the FD can take many forms, including face-to-face meetings, writing letters or video conferencing.

Working to Heal Broken Relationships.

Facilitated Dialogue is...

- An opportunity for all parties to talk
- An opportunity for all parties to ask questions
- Intended to promote healing (as defined by individuals involved)

Facilitated Dialogue is NOT...

- A step towards, or a replacement of, legal charges
- Used to determine the validity of allegations
- Therapy, although some find the process to be therapeutic
- Mediation, although sometimes solutions and agreements are by-products

To find out if Facilitated Dialogue is right for you, contact 519-744-6549 x211