#### "Restorative Justice and Probation"

Restorative Justice in probation practice: strategic steps, making the footprint International conference, Prague 23rd-25th September 2015

Pavel Štern

15 years of Czech Probation and Mediation Service: Restorative Justice practices

## 15 years ago...empty spaces....

No equipment No computers-typewriters Few people Lot of cases and files New law New ideas, visions

# Probation and Mediation under one roof

 Integration of Offenders, lawabiding behavior and no further offending

 Participation of Victims, support, reparation, trust and security

 Protection of the Community, prevention of any future offending behavior

# Probation and Mediation under one roof

- Victim/Offender Mediation and activities leading to conflicts resolution, i.e. restorative activities;
- Probation preparation, organization and enforcement of supervision in the frame of community sanctions and measures and other alternatives to imprisonment; (parole, community services, home detention, etc.)
- Preparation, organization and enforcement of measures based on the Youth Justice Act.

#### RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

- \* Key paradigm, idea, journey
- \* Victims Reducing harm, damage,
- \* Offenders-take responsibility
- \* Communities-participation, strengthening the feeling of safety
- \*Three basic principles, simple, sustainable, timeless

#### RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

- \* Restorative Justice represents concept of social responsibility of public institutions....."Public social responsibility"
- \* Corporate Social Responsibility is well known equivalent concept in private sector....
- \* Restorative Justice represent <u>public</u> <u>commitment</u> of judicial institutions/justice

## **Practice**

- \* Restorative Justice concept became component part of work Probation and Mediation service
- \* Victim/Offender Mediation program and activities in pre trial stage
- \* Probation activities including Parole
- \* Case management was extended about the victim's context,

## Practice and examples

- Victim/Offender Mediation Program
- \* Projects Restorative Justice "Victim support and counseling" and "Why me"? Counseling and assistance for Victims of crime in collaboration with NGOs. Extension of services for Victims. Currently runs in 40 cities.
- \* Projects "Fragile Chance", development of the Parole Boards
- \* Project "On the right way" implementation of Family Group Conferences for juveniles

## Some figures for the 15 years

- \* More than 12 000 VOM sessions
- \* Almost 5 million Euro negotiated as financial compensation for Victims in last 3 years
- \* More than 10 000 contacts in the frame of Victim counseling almost for 6000 victims were delivered assistance and support in the frame of counseling projects
- \* Almost 10 000 pre release reports
- \* Almost 2 million Euro were ensured as victim compensation in the frame of probation work in last 3 years.
- \* More than 10 millions hours in the frame of the Community services

# Probation and Mediation Service 2015



# Probation and Mediation Service 2015



### Conclusion

# Best wishes and Good Luck for Probation and Mediation Service

Thank you for your attention

Link: pavel.stern@centrum.cz; tel.: 607 919 028