

Restorative Justice Sign Posts®  
Victim Involvement  
By  
Mary Achilles and Howard Zehr

## We are working toward appropriate victim involvement in restorative justice programs when...

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- 1... victims and their advocates are represented on governing bodies and initial planning committees.*
- 2...efforts to involve victims grows out of a desire to assist them, not offenders. Victims are not responsible to rehabilitate the offender unless they choose to do so.*
- 3...victim's safety is a fundamental element of program design.*
- 4...victims clearly understand their roles in the program including potential benefits and risks to themselves and offenders.*
- 5...confidentiality is provided within clear guidelines.*
- 6...victims have as much information as possible about their case, the offense and the offender.*
- 7...victims can identify and articulate their needs and are given choices.*
- 8...victims opportunity for involvement are maximized.*
- 9...program design provides referrals for additional support and assistance.*
- 10...services are available to victims even when their offender(s) have not been arrested or are willing or unable to participate.*

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