

Who is eligible?

RYC works with court-involved youth between the ages of 12 and 18. We provide assistance to youth who are required to appear at the following court locations:

- 311 Jarvis Street
- 2201 Finch Avenue West
- 1911 Eglinton Avenue East

Referrals

Youth can be referred to our program in the following ways:

- Informal Diversion: Includes self-referral and referrals from lawyers, Crown, judge, police, teachers, family, community organizations etc.
- EJS (Extrajudicial Sanctions): Referred by Crown and probation

Contact

For further program information, referrals and intake, please contact:

Jody Dunn, Justice Program Manager
416-960-9778 | jdunn@peacebuilders.ca

The Ontario Court of Justice, Youth Court
311 Jarvis Street, Office 150
Toronto, ON M5B 2C4

The Ontario Court of Justice,
Youth Court

311 Jarvis St., Room 150
Toronto, ON M5B 2C4

416-960-9778
www.peacebuilders.ca



RESTORATIVE YOUTH CIRCLES



Youth Justice

Restorative Justice

Social Justice

A restorative justice and court-diversion program for youth in the justice system.

What is RYC?

Peacebuilders' Restorative Youth Circles (RYC) is a court-diversion program for young people between the ages of 12 and 18. RYC invites youth, and when appropriate, their families and community members to participate in a restorative justice process. RYC is designed to determine what factors led to the incident, the extent of the young person's responsibility, and also help the young person develop resolutions to make amends and work towards a positive future.

What does RYC do?

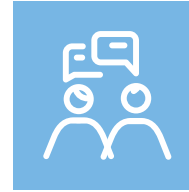
RYC assists court-involved youth by:

- Meeting with the young person and their family
- Completing an intake/ needs assessment
- Supporting the youth's strengths and needs
- Connecting young people with supportive peers and mentors
- Providing guidance to assist the young person in establishing and attaining their goals
- Ensuring assistance is provided throughout the court process
- Making referrals to appropriate community-based programs

How does it work?

1. Intake Interview & Needs Assessment

- 45 min – 1hr
- Location: 311 Jarvis Street, Youth Court, Room 150
- Parents/supportive individuals are encouraged to attend
- The interview is confidential
- Required documents: police synopsis and bail conditions



2. Peer Circles (6 sessions)

- Weekly after school sessions
- Location: MLSE Launchpad at 259 Jarvis Street
- Peer-led conversations about Circle Values facilitated by RYC staff
- Recreational activities supported by the MLSE Launchpad
- Dinner and tokens provided



3. Individual Circles (6 sessions) & Personal Reflection

- Weekly after school sessions
- Location: Various locations around downtown Toronto
- 2 Circle Keepers assigned to each case
- The young person reflects on the conflict in a safe and supportive environment
- The young person prepares a personal reflection for the court



4. Report to the Court

- Justice Program Manager and Circle Keepers prepare a report outlining the young person's progress and relevant circumstances
- Staff and Circle Keepers accompany the youth to the final court date
- Report and personal reflection are shared with the court, including defence counsel, Crown attorney and referral source



Since 2002, almost all of the young people who have participated in RYC have seen their charges dropped.