

Starting Community Conversations

Share what you've learned about justice reinvestment with other community members. Invite them to discuss local perspectives on strengths, challenges, and a vision for change.

Why We Start With Conversations

Conversations are the first step in understanding a community's landscape and bringing everyone along for the journey of justice reinvestment. This is an opportunity to delve deeper into what justice reinvestment means at a local level and to start imagining a brighter vision for the community. Organisations, programs and individuals may start identifying the existing positive assets, the barriers that prevent their vision from being a reality and unpacking local challenges and potential solutions. It is an opportunity for everyone to have their voice heard and for patterns to start emerging.

Who Needs to Be Involved

As Justice Reinvestment is a whole-of-community response, it's best to get as many people involved as you can from an early point. In each community, there may be some key organisations or individuals who will be integral to the success of a JR journey. This may include:

- Local Aboriginal Elders and families
- Young people
- Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations
- Not-for-profit community and social services including youth, family support, housing, FDV, AOD, mental health
- Local champions and community figures
- Local Government departments including youth, safety, community development
- State Government agencies including Department of Communities, WA Police, Department of Education, Department of Housing, Department of Health, Community Alcohol and Drug services

Different Formats for Community Conversations

The way you structure conversations will likely look different depending on the participants. Some format examples include:

- One on one conversations with individuals or organisations
- Presentations to government agencies
- Meeting in a park with all community invited
- Holding a lunch at the local cultural centre for Elders
- Paid youth participation sessions at the local youth centre



Key Conversation Topics

Further unpack what Justice Reinvestment is and, if required, what SRWA role is

Hint: refer to the *Workshop Presentation* and the *Getting Started with JR pack*

What is your vision for a thriving community?

What are the good things about your community including people, places, things, and invisible things?

Hint: refer to the *Guide to Asset Mapping*.

What would the ideal community look & feel like?

What do we need to know more about?

What's your aspiration, hope or ambition for our community?

What are the barriers to achieving this vision/ the problems within your community?

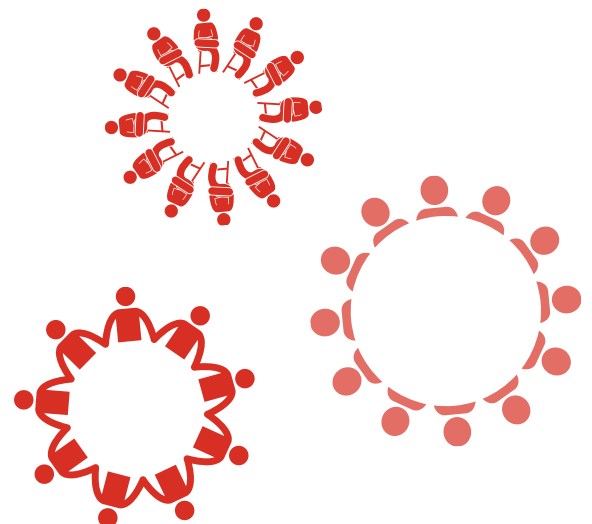
Hint: refer to *Problem Trees* and *Circuit Breaker* activities.

Who else needs to be involved in these conversations?

Helpful Tools and Resources

There are lots of creative ways to have these conversations with your community, and different activities and ideas to get people talking. We've put links to some of these ideas on our website so that you can use them as a starting point. You'll find:

- Problem Trees Activity
- Circuit Breakers Activity
- Youth Participation Guidelines
- Guide to Asset Mapping
- Effective Community Brainstorming
- Service Design Tools



We're here to support along the way!

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