

INTERESTED IN BECOMING A VORS VOLUNTEER?

Making a commitment to become a community volunteer with CYS affirms the principal of reconciliation, forgiveness, and peace in the community. If you believe you have the skills to become a peace-maker for families in crisis and juvenile offenders, please get involved.

In order to better serve the community, we desperately need bilingual volunteers.

CYS HISTORY

Centinela Youth Services, Inc. (CYS) is a 501(c)3 non-profit community-based organization founded in 1975 by the five cities in the Centinela Valley - Inglewood, Hawthorne, Lawndale, Gardena, and Lennox.

Centinela Youth Services, Inc. (CYS) has over 35 years of experience filled with a long and proven track record of successfully providing comprehensive integrated services that include youth and family counseling, mediation/conflict resolution, case management, and after-school programs.

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VORS is an equal opportunity program of Centinela Youth Services Inc. (CYS), a nonprofit organization.

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ENTINELA YOUTH SERVICES

V.O.R.S.

Victim Offender Restitution Services

STRENGTHENING
FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES

EMPOWERING
YOUTH TO RESOLVE
CONFLICTS & OVERCOME
OBSTACLES

BUILDING
SUCCESSFUL
STUDENTS AND
CONTRIBUTING
ADULTS

www.cys-la.org

WHAT IS VORS AND HOW DOES IT WORK?

Victim/Offender Restitutions Services (VORS) assists Victims of crimes and Youth Offenders in working out an agreement.

Mediations are conducted by trained, volunteer mediators from the community who facilitate the mediation process. The responsibility for the success or failure of the process lies with the participants. There is no charge for these services to either party.

Certified mediators will conduct a meeting where the Victim and the Youth Offender are provided with opportunities for input and participation.

Agreement may include monetary compensation to the Victim, community service or other means agreeable to both parties. The meeting is confidential and usually lasts one to two hours, which includes a 20-30 minute orientation to explain the mediation process in detail.

VORS assists the Youth Offender to fulfill the agreement with referrals to Community Service programs, Anger Management, Counseling, etc. and by monitoring progress toward completion.

Taking part in the mediation and reaching an agreement is totally up to both parties. If either party does not wish to participate, or if an agreement is not reached and not fulfilled for any reason, the case will be returned to the original referring agency for their action.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?

That depends on you. The VORS Program only assists in holding the mediation and helping Victims of crimes and Youth Offenders to reach their own agreement. The purpose of the agreement is to bring resolution to the incident that occurred.

Some of the results that are achieved in this kind of process are:

- The Victim- Receives compensation for losses and is part of the process, which is usually not possible through the courts and probation.
- The Youth Offender- Has the opportunity to make things right and take responsibility for his/her actions and avoid conviction on their juvenile court record.

WHO CAN TAKE PART AND WHAT DOES VOLUNTARY MEAN?

Voluntary means that it is your choice to take part in the VORS program. Participation is limited to first or second time Youth Offenders whose crime lends itself to restitution (such as repayment of property loss or damage) and to those who are interested in meeting with the Victim to "make things right". We expect parents to actively support their youth in their efforts to resolve the matter.

Victims who participate do so voluntarily because they understand and support the goals of Restitution and Reconciliation.

VORS SUCCESS

Youth Offenders are 50% less likely to be re-arrested.

Over \$250,000 paid in restitution and 30,000 hours of community service performed to date.

Youth Offenders, Parents/Guardians, and Victims rated the VORS mediation process very favorable.

OVER 3,500 CASES MEDIATED

97% were satisfied with the mediation results and glad they participated.

98% or more would recommend the program to a person in a similar situation.

96% or more rated the program as good or excellent.

95% of the Victims say they would recommend this program to a person in a similar situation.

15% re-arrest rate for participants compared to 31% re-arrest rate for non-participants in the program.

