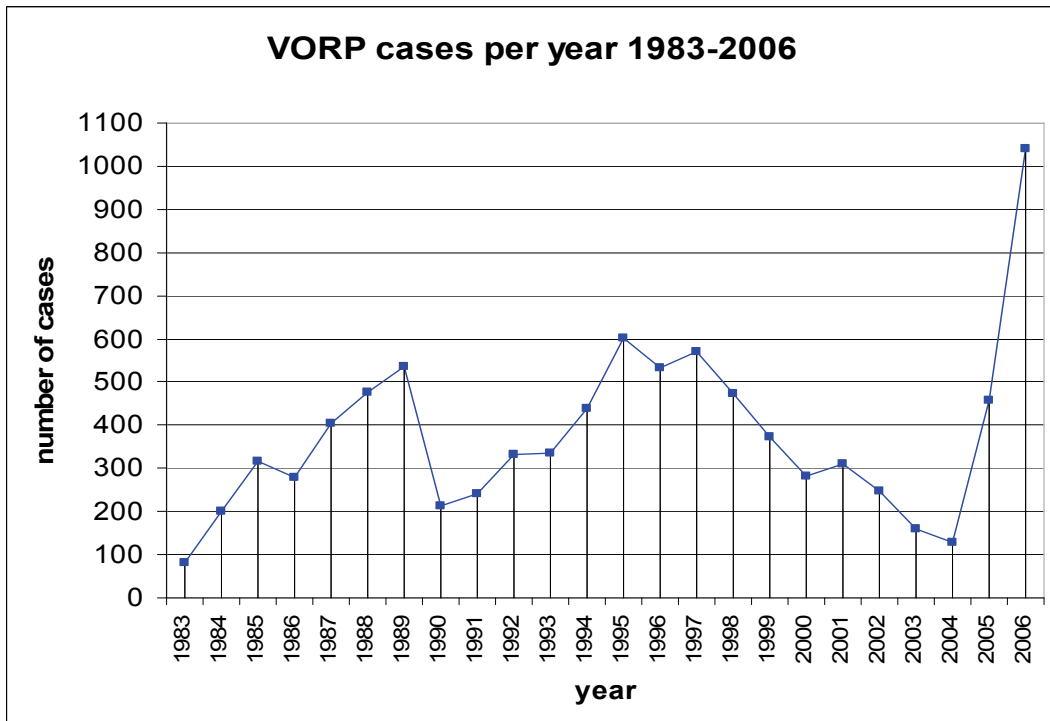


Administrator's Corner



VORP's case referrals were up the past year, to put it mildly. The graph shown here is also available on our web site on the statistics page. The huge leap is from the citation cases reported on previously. We also had an increase in standard case referrals in 2006, a total of 224 cases. 100 of these referrals are pending since referrals increased markedly toward the end of the year. We were able to meet with 105 offenders, ten of who refused to participate, and 72 victims, 11 declining to participate. 60 joint meetings were held and all came to agreement. This is an increase in the percentage of referrals going to agreement. Historically we run about 50%, and 2006 had a 57% rate of agreements from referrals where we could meet with the offender. That is a good thing.

The rate of increase in referrals of regular cases, meaning that they have a Probation Officer, continues. Through March 5 we have received 85 regular cases and 79 citation cases. This puts us on track for another year like 2006. The rapid increase in regular cases means that we need mediators who have not been taking cases lately to get going again. It is a good problem to have. Give Noelle a call and take a case. She has lots of good ones.

The Celebration of St. Patrick's Day

It is a holiday which many of us are aware of but few of us know what we are actually celebrating. It is the celebration of St. Patrick bringing Christianity to Ireland. He was a missionary who is attributed to have removed the pagan worship taking place when he arrived. He also fought against the British mistreatment of Irish Christians. St. Patrick's Day is a day for spiritual renewal and prayer for missionaries around the world.

Many of the missionaries going out into the world also experience the persecution of those with whom they live. Our prayer is that they are able to effectively and lovingly minister to the people allowing them to restore their relationship with Christ as well as restoring relationships with their community and country. Please remember to pray for those doing missions work this month.

RESTORATIVE JUSTICE PROJECT VORP ORGANIZING INSTITUTE

APRIL 25-27, 2007

The Restorative Justice Project in cooperation with the Fresno Victim Offender Reconciliation Program (VORP), has designed a unique seminar for individuals and communities interested in starting a VORP in their area. Ron Claassen, founder of the Fresno VORP, Duane Ruth-Heffelbower, VORP Administrator, and the current VORP staff will lead seminar participants through the challenging steps of launching a successful VORP from concept to first case.

Training will also include: up-to-date package of materials needed to initiate and operate a VORP:

- VORP Organizing /Program Manual (with CD)
- Volunteer Training Manual
- Restorative Justice: Making Things Right (Video)

The training will be held on the campus of Fresno Pacific University, where the Fresno VORP is located.

To sign up or find out more please call 1-800-909-VORP or go online: <http://peace.fresno.edu/rjp>

Advanced Registration is Required

Advanced Training Series for Mediators of Civil Cases Involving Business Contracts

Sponsored by: Better Business Bureau, Fresno Pacific University, San Joaquin College of Law and the Fresno County Superior Court.

This training is particularly designed for mediators who desire to be on the Superior Court civil mediation panel. Details are available at http://peace.fresno.edu/docs/Advanced_Training.pdf or by contacting Mark Roy at the BBB Mediation Center: 559-256-6325. Qualified persons receive the training at no cost.

Volunteer Mediator Training

May 11 & 12

Friday 6:30pm - 9:30pm

Saturday 8:30am - 3:30pm

Call 455-9803 to reserve a spot.

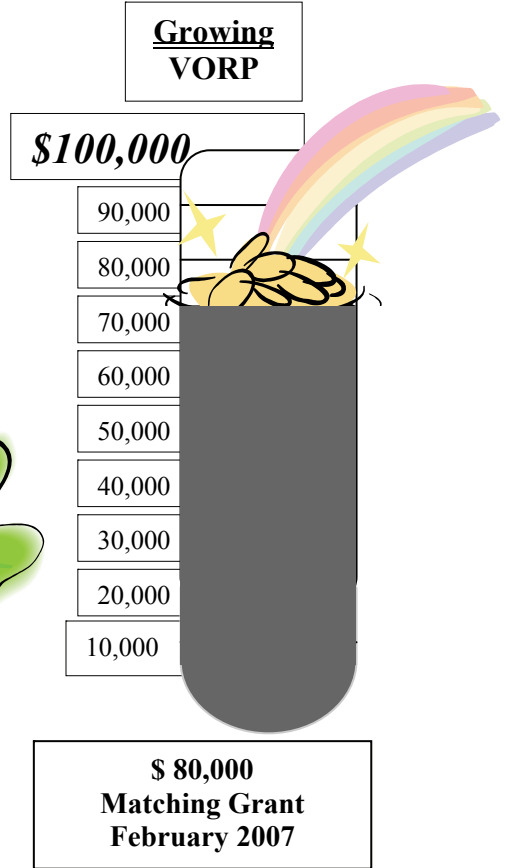
Come and become a mediator to make a difference in our community!

VORP Staff

Duane Ruth-Heffelbower	Administrator
Johnny Phouthachack	Agreement Manager
Noelle Daoudian	Mediation Manager

VORP Board Members

Michael Blue, Chair	Arthur Wint
Dave Purvis, Secretary/Treasurer	José Chaparro
Ron Blalack	



4882 E. Townsend Ave
Fresno, CA 93727
(559) 455-9803
<http://vorp.org>

Victim Offender Reconciliation Program
of the Central Valley, Inc.



Non-Profit Org
U.S. Postage
PAID
Clovis, CA 93612
Permit # 376