

Victim Offender Reconciliation Program

2529 Willow Ave. Clovis, CA 93612 - (209) 291-1120

VORP News - September 1984 - Fresno County

Final plans are made for the VORP GATHERING which has been planned for October 4, 1984. We hope to see you there. We will be meeting at 6:30 PM at the College Community Mennonite Brethren Church, 2529 Willow Ave, Clovis. Child care will be provided. It will be helpful for us to know how many to plan for so if you have not already told Roxanne or Gail how many will be coming in your group, please do that if possible by October 1, 1984. Our meal will be a potluck. Please bring with you a main dish or a salad. The VORP Board of Directors will provide the dessert and drinks. Table service will also be provided. Our main speaker for the evening will be Judge Fitch, Presiding Judge, Juvenile Court, County of Fresno. We want this to be an occasion for volunteers, financial contributors, board of directors, staff and others interested in VORP to get together for inspiration, encouragement, and celebration. If you have any questions please call. We encourage you to bring interested friends since this will be a good time to find out about VORP. Just let us know how many will be coming.

Lives are being affected by the VICTIM OFFENDER RECONCILIATION PROGRAM. Following is a recap of a recent experience as shared by Gail Boldt, our Mennonite Voluntary Service person.

I recently had the pleasure of working with volunteer Jane Krantz on a case. It involved a teenage girl who burglarized the home of an older friend for whom she was babysitting. The victim turned out to be a very expressive and loving woman. She told very honestly of the extreme pain of having had her trust and her home violated, and of having sentimental objects stolen which she never recovered. At the same time, she had great compassion for the offender, going as far as inviting her back to the home and offering that she is still her friend. On the offender's side, we saw remorse over the act, but also great fear and pain in relationship to her parents, one of whom was present at the meeting. It was obvious that there was a real lack of trust and communication between the parents and the girl. Her pain was evidenced in that she could not quit crying during the hour meeting, and she became much more upset when talking about her relationship with her parents. The result of the expressed pain of both victim and offender was that they held each other's hand through much of the meeting, came up with a restitution contract, and were genuinely reconciled. Jane and I came away from that meeting with quite mixed emotions. We felt good knowing that we had facilitated a good VORP meeting where a relationship was restored. We could not, however, address all of the pain which seemed to be in all areas of the offender's life. This served as a sad reminder that we all must be ministering to one another continuously, seeking to bring a more complete healing with God's help.

Our Board of Directors has decided that while state or local government funding would be helpful and allow us to serve additional persons or additional needs, it is important that the basic support for our program come from individuals and churches in the community who know what VORP is about and want to participate in it. The VORP Board is inviting you to join in support of this unique ministry by becoming a "Friend of VORP". As a "Friend", you will commit yourself to making a monthly or yearly contribution so that VORP can continue and expand on a solid financial foundation.

The Board of Directors has decided that the amount needed to provide the basic financial foundation is \$2,500.00 per month. Since our rent is donated along with some other expense items, this will provide a part-time director, a full time Mennonite Voluntary Service person, a part-time secretary, and meet our volunteer training expenses, and other basic expenses and allow us to handle approximately 20 cases per month.

Thank you for the support you have given VORP in so many ways!

The Board of Directors has adopted the following financial plan and would like to invite you to become a "Friend of VORP" by selecting a level of giving that would be appropriate for you. We need your support. As you will see below, there are already many "Friends of VORP" who have made a financial commitment.

The first column indicates the goal.

Monthly Gifts

10 - \$25 Gifts We need 10 families, individuals, or groups to give \$25 each per month.

Annual Gifts

24 - \$250 Gifts We need 24 families, individuals, or groups to give \$250 each per year.

The second column indicates the amount received monthly from that category. The third column indicates the number of Currently Pledged Gifts in that category. The last column indicates the number of new pledges we need to meet our goal.

PLAN ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR FUNDING VORP

MONTHLY GIFTS	Monthly Amount	Currently Pledged Gifts	Pledges Needed
25 - \$10 Gifts	\$250	7	18
17 - \$15 Gifts	\$250	2	15
10 - \$25 Gifts	\$250	0	10
5 - \$50 Gifts	\$250	0	5
5 - \$100 Gifts	\$500	4	1
ANNUAL GIFTS			
24 - \$250 Gifts (2 per month)	\$500	12	12
12 - \$500 Gifts (1 per month)	\$500	3	9
	\$2500	\$875	

If you have not already made a financial commitment to VORP we would like to invite you to do that now. Please detach the form below and indicate the amount you feel is appropriate for you at this time. Please make you checks payable to VORP.

 Yes, I/We want to be a "Friend of VORP" by investing monthly in the way indicated:

\$100 \$50 \$25 \$15 \$10

Yes, I/We want to be a "Friend of VORP" by investing yearly in the way indicated:

\$500 \$250 \$100 \$50 \$25

Name: _____