

ASSETS COLLAGE

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OBJECTIVE

Participants build relationships and also understand what is included in the assets phase of the restorative justice process. Participants practice seeing each other for their unique strengths and assets.

MATERIALS

You will need art supplies, which may include paper, pictures, magazines, scissors, glue, colored pencils or markers, or anything else you would like to make available.

INSTRUCTIONS

Instruct students to create a collage (using the art materials provided) that represents their unique personality and the things they consider to be their assets or strengths. After each person has completed their collage, you may invite each person to share their creation with the group. In a group that knows each other somewhat well, take time (this may be during a break or lunch) to pass the collages around and other students can anonymously write something they like about each person on the back of that person's collage. In the end, each student will have a piece of art representing their unique strengths with things other people appreciate about them on the back.

DEBRIEF

What did you learn about yourself/another person? Why is it important to learn about each other's assets and strengths? How do you feel being seen for your strengths? How does that relate to how the responsible party feels when their strengths or assets are acknowledged in the restorative justice process? How can strengths be effectively integrated in the process (pre-conference and conference)?

LESSON

It takes practice to see ourselves and others through a strengths-based lens, but when we are seen for our strengths, it feels so good and affirming. This is the feeling we want to cultivate in those who participate in the restorative justice process through taking the time to learn about, highlight, and draw on their strengths throughout the process.