KPCF SUCCESS STORY: Resolutions Northwest

The Kaiser Permanente Community Fund (KPCF) at the Northwest Health Foundation was founded in 2004 with an initial $28 million investment by Kaiser Permanente to improve conditions for health.

**2008-15 KPCF Funded Resolutions NW for $175,000**

**2010**

Resolutions Northwest implemented a pilot, 3-year Restorative Justice program at Rigler Elementary School in Portland Public Schools with funding from Multnomah County Department of Community Justice, Portland Public School District, and KPCF.

**2014 Impact**

During three academic years (2011-2014) of the Restorative Justice Program at Rigler Elementary School, African American and Latino students’ relative rate of major disciplinary referrals declined. Rates began to rise in 2014-2015 when the program didn’t operate that year.

Resolutions Northwest facilitates honest dialogue to resolve conflict and advance racial and social justice.

Restorative Justice is a philosophy and practice to address harm between individuals and communities and to undo systemic patterns of institutional racism and oppression.

Goals include:

- **School**
  - Reduce the disproportional number of students of color being affected by major discipline referrals (suspensions and expulsions).

- **Juvenile Justice**
  - Keep students in school and break the connection between exclusionary practices in education and rates of juvenile incarceration.

The relative rate is a comparison of the rate of major discipline referrals (suspensions and expulsions) for each non-White student group compared to the rate for White students. For example, if African American students have a relative rate of 3.4, that means that group of students was 3.4 times more likely to have a discipline referral resulting in an expulsion or out-of-school suspension than White students in that school.

In 2014-15, Portland Public Schools contracted with Resolutions Northwest to implement the Restorative Justice program in five additional schools: Chief Joseph/Ockley Green, Beaumont Middle School, George Middle School, Grant High School, and Madison High School.

**Strategies Implemented:**

- Community building
- Circles
- Mediation
- Restorative Dialogues
- Restorative Listening Dialogue with Portland Parent Union (PPU)

October 2018