



OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
TWENTIETH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Michael T. Dougherty, District Attorney

**Press Release**

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Contact: Shannon Carbone  
Phone: 303-441-3804  
scarbone@bouldercounty.org

**District Attorney's Office Wins 2019 National Association of Counties (NACo)  
Award for Restorative Justice & Diversion Program**

The Boulder County District Attorney's Office's Center for Prevention and Restorative Justice has received the 2019 National Association of Counties (NACo) Award. The DA's Center for Prevention and Restorative Justice was recognized in the "*Criminal Justice and Public Safety*" category for our highly innovative and successful Diversion Program.

Diversion is an alternative to formal prosecution that allows offenders to take responsibility for their actions, repair the harm from the offense, get help for underlying needs, and move forward without the detrimental, collateral consequences of a criminal conviction.

District Attorney Michael Dougherty stated, "Our Restorative Justice & Diversion Program has become a model at the local, state, and national level. In 2018, we expanded our program and diverted over 600 cases while maintaining a 92% successful completion rate. This program enhances community safety while, at the same time, reducing the risk factors for recidivism. With each successful completion, the criminal case is dismissed, and the individual can move forward without the negative impact on opportunities for education, housing, and employment. Additionally, 99% of the victims reported they were satisfied with the way their case was handled. This award recognizes the incredibly positive impact that our outstanding staff and dedicated volunteers are having on our community."

NACo selected winners for their annual [Achievement Awards](#). These awards seek to recognize innovative county government programs nationwide.

Attached are some photos from the award ceremony.

Pictured below:

Boulder District Attorney staff Erin Siffing Cordell and Kelly Taylor Russell lead DA Volunteers through a Restorative Justice demonstration. The DA's Office provides training for community members and facilitators and has an outstanding group of dedicated volunteers.

