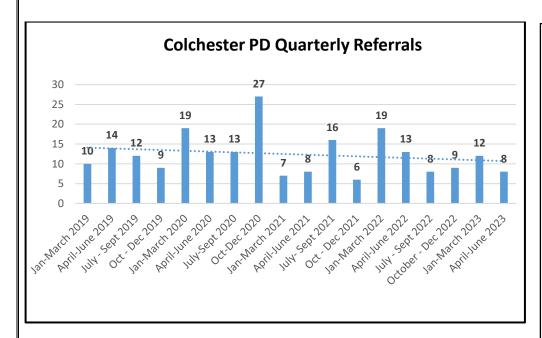
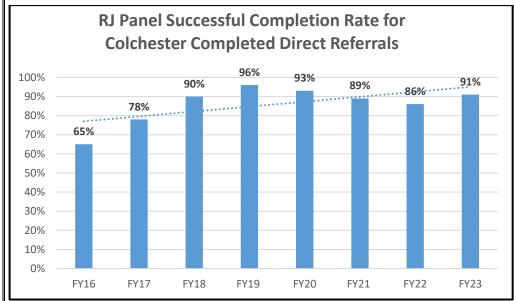


## Restorative Justice in Colchester (FY23)

Through a Pre-Charge program, the Colchester Police Department can refer cases to Restorative Justice Panels instead of court. The panels are facilitated by trained community volunteers and serve as a proven and cost-effective means to addressing low level offenses. Through a series of conversations, the panel process holds those responsible for crime accountable for their actions and provides an important opportunity for those affected by crime to share their stories and identify needs for repair.





\* Of the cases that closed in FY23, 29 of the 51 responsible parties successfully completed a Restorative Justice Panel. Returned cases were largely due to an inability to contact the responsible party and several did not take responsibility for the crime.



## Community Impact of FY23 Referrals

29 community members affected by the referred crimes were contacted by CJC staff to discuss the referral and how they can be involved.

18 affected parties participated in the restorative justice panels involving their situation, either in person, victim statements, requesting updates, and/or restitution requests.

Colchester residents provided **180** hours of service through the facilitation of panels in the community.

\$1,195 in restitution was resolved through the panel agreement process by those responsible for the crime.

## **Quote from Responsible Party:**

"I would totally recommend this program! From the first meeting right up until the end, it was an amazingly awesome experience. I was instantly comfortable, and it was like we knew each other...I definitely felt connected to my community. It made me realize my community is a lot more compassionate and understanding than I knew. I am thankful to the Affected Party for being generous and kind with the restitution terms."

