

### Launch of the TFP evaluation

Presentation by Teresa Elwes, Grant Executive at the Bromley Trust,  
18 October 2012

*The Bromley Trust is one of the charitable foundations that had the privilege of funding this piece of research.*

*Before taking over the Bromley Trust I worked for many years in the criminal justice system, both in prison and in community resettlement, so I feel I can speak from a little personal experience.*

*The TFP Restore programme is unusual. It is a model that developed from outside criminogenic or psychological frameworks:- Marina's background was in journalism, and yet, it touches a nerve. After attending a Restore workshop at HMP Highdown I could see the profound psychological response the programme could engender in everyone involved.*

*Forgiveness, the ability to reconcile your past, is central to being able to cope with your future, and consequently an essential building block to successful resettlement.*

*I was keen to capture this in a piece of thorough research. Real research that drills down to elicit the underlying factors for change, rather than a more circular evaluation done to prove a numerical advantage in order to garner funds.*

*I also wanted to make sure that prisoners involved in the workshops were not left in a more vulnerable state after the workshop was over. Offenders can be some of the most psychologically vulnerable people in our society and such a powerful workshop could create havoc in the silence and solitude of a cell.*

*As a human rights funder we are keen to make sure that our funding balances restoration with individual risk, for example, we wanted to make sure that if the workshop led to an increase in agitation, self-harm, or even suicidal ideation, the necessary support was understood and made available. Something I knew would also be an important consideration of any governor deciding whether to welcome the programme into their prison.*

*We worked with Marina to find a researcher that would be able to undertake this work and Joanne Adler and the Middlesex team stood out.*

*The results speak for themselves. RESTORE can be successfully supported in the prison estate with excellent results-*

*I would welcome further research that builds on this work, perhaps looking at the particular issues in the women's estate, and also the management and resettlement support needed to strengthen the process of reconciliation throughout the criminal justice system.*