

P.O. Box 10042 Chicago, IL 60610-0042 (312) 291-9183 TheJha.org

The John Howard Association independently monitors Illinois correctional facilities, policies and practices, and advances reforms needed to achieve a fair, humane and effective criminal justice system. We use the information and reports we receive from people who are incarcerated to identify trends and problems within the prisons – in turn, this informs our monitoring project and policy work.

During this time when IDOC has temporarily suspended all visits, JHA will not be able to conduct our regular prison monitoring visits. However, we very much want to know what is going on inside Illinois prisons during this difficult time. We hope that you will send us privileged mail to share your experiences or have your outside supports reach out to us. The more information and details you share about your conditions of confinement during this time, the better equipped we will be to address any additional issues with IDOC administrators. Specific areas you might address in a letter could include updates or concerns related to communications within, and from outside your facility; updates or concerns related to access to hygiene products and health care; and a description of what's happening inside of your prison that you most want people to know about.

You can write to us at the following address:

JOHN HOWARD ASSOCIATION PO BOX 10042 CHICAGO, IL 60610-0042

Note: Write "PRIVILEGED MAIL" on the envelope and seal the letter, if you want the letter to be confidential.

You can continue to write to JHA with other concerns and questions. As an independent entity, we also provide an avenue for inmates to report outside their facility, remaining anonymous on request, to raise PREA issues with IDOC.

Please know, JHA staff will be reading every letter you send and tracking this information to monitor what is occurring behind prison walls and to advocate for humane policies and practices that advance prevention and containment of the Coronavirus (COVID-19). The health and safety of everyone in IDOC is of critical importance to us.

Additionally, we are busy fielding and responding to the calls and emails we're receiving from your concerned loved ones. Family and friends can contact JHA via our website www.thejha.org or leaving a message at 312.291.9183 x208 to inform us about what they are hearing from you in real time.