

HEALING BEYOND HARM

Healing Beyond Harm is a multi-agency collaboration that creates spaces to heal. There are two main programs that Healing Beyond Harm offers: The Apology Letter Bank, and Harm Dialogues. Both are created to support healing and learning after harm has occurred.

What is the Apology Letter Bank?

An Apology Letter Bank (ALB) is a RJ practice that allows a person who is incarcerated to write a letter of apology to crime survivors. For crime survivors who would like an apology for harm committed against them, the ALB provides an opportunity to receive it.

- Always at crime survivor's behest
- Can eventually lead to Restorative Conference
- Sufficient for emotional resolution of certain crime

Who is eligible to submit a letter of apology?

Anyone who is currently incarcerated in the IDOC Logan and Stateville locations

Where do I submit a letter of apology?

To our program partners North Park University in Logan and PNAP in Stateville who will send them to the HBH Coordinator

What occurs once an apology letter is submitted?

It is submitted to the Prisoner Review Board for review and vetting for any appeal processes or orders of protection

What is the Healing Beyond Harm Accountability Group?

It is our hope that during the HBH workshops that groups will continue to build community to sustain relationships that support this and other processes

What are Harm Dialogues?

A face-to-face interactive conference between the crime survivor(s) and the person who committed the harm, in which they discuss the impact of the crime.

- Always crime survivor-initiated
- Not for the purposes of furthering appeals/parole
- Focus is the emotional/mental well-being of all participants

Who can request a Harm Dialogue?

After a survivor has received a letter they may request a Harm Dialogue

If a Harm Dialogue is requested, do you have to participate?

All processes are voluntary, you may decline the request

Who are the collaborating partners?

The Justice and Equity Office of the Lieutenant Governor

Adler Institute of Public Safety and Social Justice

Illinois Department of Corrections

Illinois Attorney General

Cook County States Attorney Office and subsequently States Attorney Offices statewide