



Restorative Justice

What is restorative justice?:

Restorative justice aims to repair harm done to victims by ensuring offenders take responsibility, understand their actions, and have a chance to make amends while discouraging further harm. Unlike traditional retribution-focused justice, it offers an alternative approach, sometimes working alongside traditional methods, with some arguing certain restorative justice cases constitute punishment.

Where is restorative justice used?:

In Communities:

- Restorative justice is being used in communities to resolve conflicts, repair harm, and rebuild trust.
- Concord Prison Outreach's other programs such as vocational skills courses allow incarcerated individuals to exit prison with newfound skills, and help them to find jobs.

With Incarcerated People:

- Restorative justice can positively impact individuals by encouraging them to take accountability for the harm that they caused in the past.
- Restorative justice allows participants to leave prison with a clean conscience, and allows them to leave prison with a renewed sense of responsibility, self-awareness, and a readiness to grow and succeed.

Effects of restorative justice in organizations and businesses:

- Facilitators work with victims, survivors, and perpetrators of harm to help them address the consequences of the harm and find ways to move forward positively and productively.
- Organizations establish a safe and supportive environment where all participants can share their thoughts and feelings without fear of judgment.

How Concord Prison Outreach uses restorative justice:

At Concord Prison Outreach, restorative justice serves as a core component of our social-emotional programming, offering an alternative framework for justice that centers connection, reflection, and healing. Our RJ programs include reading groups, maintenance groups, retreats, etc.