

RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

UNA NEWSLETTER

RESTORATIVE GOALS AND VALUES

Participants' Opinions

The Restorative Justice (RJ) Lab, at the University of North Alabama, is a collaborative and interdisciplinary hub for rethinking justice through community building, mutual aid, and restorative practices that prevent, reduce, and transform harm, in connection to create a program that is truly one of a kind at Limestone Correctional Facility. RJ at Limestone started in 2022, and the current class has 19 students, and two Facilitators who collaborate to create this newsletter. Coursework consists of six classes that span from Criminal Justice, English, Psychology, and Sociology. The curriculum is designed to prepare students to contribute to conflict resolution, community building, and transformative justice movements.

RJ Goal #1: Putting KEY decisions into the hands of those most affected by the crime shows RESPECT for everyone involved and gives people the sense of TRUST within the procedure. TRUST

being an element that promotes the common good of everyone by advocating for accountability and healing. When everyone that is affected by the crime is involved, it gives everyone a sense of fulfillment.

RJ Goal #2: Making justice more HEALING and IDEALLY, more transformative, points toward RESPECT, CARE, TRUST and HUMILITY. Healing and transformation are two of the main components of RJ, and through accountability, these ideas can be reached. Without the values mentioned in RJ, you cannot transform the patterns that lead people to commit crimes.

RJ Goal #3: REDUCE the likelihood of future offenses. Recidivism is a topic that people are somewhat familiar with, but RJ's approach, through CARE and accountability, is to dig to the root of the issue and provide healing on that level. By doing this, we teach offenders through HUMILITY that RESPECT, both for themselves and others, is deserved by everyone. This allows for the individuals in the RJ process to connect on a level that is not possible with Criminal Justice.

RESTORATIVE JUSTICE GOALS

- 1) Put **KEY** decisions into the hands of those most affected by the crime
- 2) Make justice more **HEALING** and **IDEALLY**, more transformative
- 3) **REDUCE** the likelihood of future offenses

Resource: "The Little Book of Restorative Justice," Howard Zehr, ch.2, pg. 48

RESTORATIVE JUSTICE VALUES

- 1) **RESPECT**
- 2) **CARE**
- 3) **TRUST**
- 4) **HUMILITY**

Resource: "Restorative Justice for People in Prison," Barb Toews, ch.4, pg. 23