WRITING SONG TEXT

OBJECTIVES:

- The aim is to help the inmate to start the process of writing his own texts about his situation.

CHALLENGES&TIPS:

Challenges can be that this is new and foreign to some inmates.

PRESENTATION

Lyrics can be written in different ways. Some people first write a text, and then make music for it, or get someone else to do it. Then we have those who first create the music, and then write the lyrics. Many will probably also choose to do both at the same time - you have something on your mind that you want to make music from, and you hum and create words at the same time.

PARTICIPANTS: Writing teachers and students

SPACE: Classroom or music room.

DURATION: Different periods can be used for the technique. E.g. 4 x 90 min.

MATERIAL NEEDED: A computer and a program for writing (For example. World). You also need something that indicates the key and chord progression of the text. E.g. a guitar, a beat, a piano or similar.

Theme-based: Decide on a theme. It should be something that engages you, or something you find comical, sad, strange, exciting - then the text will also be more interesting. Suggestions for topics from a rehabilitation perspective: - a good story about a person you have met - thoughts about your own processes - friendship - consequences of choices - things that annoy - big questions about life - anything, really!

Work through the material. Try to collect some of the ideas so that they can fit together in one verse - or make a sort of order for them. Feel free to use colours, and use the same colour to circle ideas that belong to the same verse. Also find out what will be the chorus - what is the most important thing you want to say? Think lines in the verses and think main message in the chorus.

Then determine the lines against the chord progression or the beat.

Determine the ending: How should the text end? Do you want the chorus to be repeated several times, or do you want to replace some words to emphasize a point? Or will there be a kind of closing verse, with a slightly different melody?