

Report to 2006 Legislature

SCR 128 Task Force

Children of Incarcerated Parents

The SCR 128 Task Force convened on September 21, 2005 under the co-leadership of the Department of Public Safety's Interim Director, Frank J. Lopez, and Department of Human Services' Director Lillian Koller.

The members of the Task Force were:

Bonnie Holcombe, Chaplain at the Women's Community Correctional Center  
Wendell Murakawa, Administrator of Department of Public Safety's Intake Service Center  
Lari Koga, Administrator of the Department of the Attorney General's CPJA Division  
Lee Dean, Assistant Program Director of Department of Human Services, Child Welfare Services Branch  
Emery Henderson, HGEA representative of the Department of Human Services  
Sharon Agnew, Director of the Office of Youth Services  
Marlene Lee, Department of Health  
Dr. Sylvia Yuen, Director of the Center on the Family at UH, Manoa  
Lydia Hemmings, Executive Director of Blueprint for Change  
Mary Hyslop, Program Director of Neighborhood Place of Puna  
Greg Dela Cruz of Neighborhood Place of Wailuku  
Geri Marullo, CEO & President of Child and Family Services  
Patti Bates, COO of Child and Family Services  
Christine Miwa-Mendoza, Program Director of the Children's Justice Center and Family Court  
Kat Brady, Coordinator of Community Alliance on Prisons  
Gail Mukaihata Hannemann, CEO of the Girl Scout Council of Hawai'i  
Mariko Kikawa of the Girl Scout Council of Hawai'i  
Wayna Buck of Good Beginnings Alliance  
Greg Farstrup, Coordinator of the Hawai'i Coalition for Dads/PACT  
Judith Clark, Executive Director of Hawai'i Youth Services Network  
Lorraine Robinson, Executive Director of Ka Hala Ho`ala Hou No Na Wahine  
Momi Guerro-Durand, Executive Director of Keiki o Ka `Aina Family Learning Centers  
Ruthann Quitiquit, President and CEO of Parents and Children United (?)  
Marilyn Brown, Ph.D., University of Hawai'i at Hilo  
Wendy Panzo, President of E Komo Mai Foundation

## INTRODUCTION

The SCR 128 Task Force believes that children of incarcerated parents should be supported by having access to their parent(s), where it is appropriate and will benefit the child.

The SCR 128 Task Force believes that Hawai`i should know the demographics of children with incarcerated parents.

The SCR 128 Task Force believes that children of incarcerated parent(s) should receive support and services to grow into well-adjusted and contributing members of our community.

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Children of incarcerated parents are the unseen victims of their parents' actions because, often times, they do not have a voice to advocate for their unmet needs. Therefore, the burden falls upon society to speak on behalf of those who do not have a voice—to advocate for the weak, the weary, and the under-represented. The need for legislative, executive, and community action has become increasingly evident. As its sister states have found, Hawai`i has seen an alarming increase in the number of children of incarcerated parents. Today, there are more than 6,000 children in Hawai`i who have at least one parent in prison.

The SCR 128 Task Force convened on September 21, 2005 to start the discussion of the needs of children of incarcerated parents and to identify programs that would provide appropriate support for children of incarcerated parents and strengthen the family bond.

The Task Force's mission is to provide children of incarcerated parents and those who are given, often unexpectedly<sup>1</sup>, the important task of assuming the immense responsibility of being the children's primary caregiver, access to an array of services and support that are integral in cultivating a stable support structure for these children so they may experience and enjoy fulfilling and productive lives, as well as providing support for incarcerated parents, where appropriate.

This report of the SCR 128 Task Force will outline the strengths and assets that already exist in Hawai`i and summarize the preliminary findings of the Task Force's four subcommittees.

This report is only a first step into this important issue because the Task Force has only had the opportunity to convene three meetings that started the process, but are not adequate to fully examine the numerous issues affecting children of incarcerated parents.

A problem identified early on by the Task Force was that the current data collection at the Department of Public Safety (hereinafter PSD) is inadequate as PSD does not currently integrate family information into its central databank. The availability and access to family information is vital because state agencies and community organizations must be equipped with such information prior to the development and implementation of programs and services for children of incarcerated parents.

When the issue of incarceration is discussed, the victims of 'invisible incarceration' -- the children and families of offenders -- are rarely considered. Research shows that in 1997, there were "approximately

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<sup>1</sup> The American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) reports that 13% of grandparents in Hawai`i are raising their grandchildren because parents are either missing or incarcerated.

2,755 father-prisoners of 5,620 minor children in Hawai'i" and that there were "approximately 439 mother-prisoners of 1,045 children in Hawai'i."<sup>2</sup> These children have been the silent victims of their parents' actions and are in need of the support of those who have the ability to effectuate positive change.

Children of incarcerated parents still have the basic daily survival needs that must be addressed. Although we do not have accurate numbers on children of incarcerated parents, Hawai'i Kids Count Census Data reveal that 14.1% of Hawaii's children live below the poverty level. The UH Center on the Family reports that 7% of Hawaii's children lack health insurance and 47.3% of elementary school children, 41.3% of intermediate school students, and 31.3% of high school students qualify for free or reduced price school lunches. The Bureau of Justice Statistics report that 7 in 10 women have minor children and the numbers are very similar in Hawai'i. Sadly, children of incarcerated parents also have additional needs that many times go unaddressed because caregivers and other support providers are struggling to meet the children's basic survival needs.

Navigating through life is difficult enough for Hawaii's precious keiki without having to cope with the added needs and barriers that stem from a parents' extended absence due to incarceration. Children of incarcerated parents "often show signs of distress caused by the lack of a stable home life and parental separation, such as depression, aggression, poor school performance, and truancy. In fact, studies have shown that children of incarcerated parents experience trauma similar to that of children whose parents are divorced or deceased. Even more alarming is many times they follow their parents' criminal behavior patterns."<sup>3</sup> National data show that 30% of adult inmates started in the juvenile justice system and that children of incarcerated parents are six times more likely to go to prison than other children. Hawai'i research, entitled 'Motherhood on the Margins', revealed that in a sample of Hawai'i women on parole and with at least one child, 36% of those women came from the juvenile justice system. This is a clarion call for the State of Hawai'i to address this important issue—to provide the assistance and programs that are necessary to help stop the cycle of generational incarceration. Strengthening families by keeping children and their incarcerated parents connected is important because children learn the consequences and sorrows of making bad choices from visiting their parents in prison.

This report will outline the strengths and assets that already exist in Hawai'i and summarize the findings of the Task Force's four sub-committees.

To facilitate the flow of information, the Task Force organized into four subcommittees:

- Needs/Barriers/Gaps
- Data/Research
- Local Programs & Models
- National Programs & Models

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<sup>2</sup> Thomas E. Lengyel & Jamie Harris, *Emerging Issues for Incarcerated Parents and Their Children: Hawai'i in a National Perspective* (2003) (unpublished White Paper, Department of Research and Evaluation Services, Alliance for Children and Families) (on file with Task Force).

<sup>3</sup> U.S. Department of Justice, National Institute of Justice, *Program Focus: Keeping Incarcerated Mothers and Their Daughters Together: Girl Scouts Beyond Bars*, Marilyn C. Moses, 1995.

### **SUB-COMMITTEE FINDINGS:**

These sub-committees were tasked with developing and prioritizing recommendations for strengthening family relations and addressing the needs of children while their parents are incarcerated. Their findings were as follows:

- **Needs/Gaps/Barriers:** This committee developed an extensive list of needs, gaps, and barriers that emphasize the importance of keeping families connected through visitation, phone calls, ongoing awareness of the importance of family relationships for staff, the need for interagency coordination, ongoing community education, and the importance of having a family advocate on staff to work with children and their incarcerated parents.
- **Data/Research:** This committee has not formally met, but the goal is to develop a database that identifies families in need of services. When a complete list of what currently exists is compiled, this sub-committee can then identify what information is needed and develop a strategy for retrieving this information. Dr. Marilyn Brown has begun work in this area, which can be expanded upon.
- **Local Programs and Models:** This committee created a preliminary list of local programs but neighbor island information is needed.
- **National Programs and Models:** This committee distributed a summary of Dr. Tom Lengyel's recommendations, a working draft index with descriptions of national programs, and a list of related reading and research for the Task Force's benefit.

### **PRELIMINARY PROPOSALS:**

#### **1. Establish an early identification and referral system to gather pertinent data and better address critical issues facing children of incarcerated parents:**

- Identify parents who are incarcerated and their children
- Compile research data on Hawai'i's incarcerated parents, both in Hawai'i and those incarcerated abroad, and their children
- Establish a system to gather data and aggregate from individual cases
- Evaluate system used in Minnesota

#### **2. Establish a comprehensive system to work with children of incarcerated parents including assessment, staff hiring and training, parent-nurturing programs, and policies for privacy issues:**

- Establish crisis intervention for children at the time of parental arrest, including but not limited to, food, shelter, and support for caregivers
- Facilitate inter-agency communication and cooperation by assigning a designee from each agency responsible for implementing policy
- Create a mission statement and establish a vision for the next five years
- Hire qualified and dedicated staff to work with incarcerated parents and their children to achieve family reunification where appropriate and provide ongoing staff awareness training

- Create a child-friendly nurturing program at all Hawai`i prisons and jails, establish connection with family throughout interaction and establish nurturing programs for children incarcerated at HYCF
- Mandate an advocate for each child with an incarcerated parent
- Improve and increase videoconferencing or webcasting and reduce the cost of inmate long distance phone calls
- Explore mentorship programs
- Establish policies for privacy issues (DOE, FERPA)

### **3. Identify national and local model programs:**

- Evaluate existing programs and best practices to meet the needs of Hawai`i's children of incarcerated parents and identify when and where to implement such programs

### **4. Develop children of incarcerated parents program proposals for consideration by Legislature:**

- Establish a Children of Incarcerated Parents Bill of Rights for the children of Hawai`i
- Develop policy and funding recommendations for the 2007 budget.

### **5. Develop media awareness and public education outreach programs to increase public awareness of impacts on children whose parents are incarcerated.**

- Strengthen community programs that focus on crime prevention
- Offer opportunities and incentives to encourage businesses and community organizations to actively participate
- Identify coordinating agencies and volunteers that can assist in fulfilling this purpose

## **RECOMMENDED ACTION BY LEGISLATURE, STATE AGENCIES, AND COMMUNITY:**

### **Legislature:**

The Legislature can assist the SCR 128 Task Force by extending the sunset date so that the Task Force can develop more comprehensive proposals to support the needs of children with incarcerated parents for the Legislature's consideration. The Task Force was only able to hold three meetings in 2005; as a result, additional time is needed to adequately research, discuss, and prepare feasible proposals. The Task Force respectfully requests that the Task Force be extended by a least one year to gather the appropriate data and develop research-based proposals for provision of services to children of incarcerated parents.

If additional time is granted, the Task Force plans to examine several case studies to help develop a solid package of proposals that will realistically address the needs of children of incarcerated parents. The Task Force also requests that the Legislature add representatives from the police, the prosecutor's office, and the Judiciary (namely Family Court and the Adult Probation Division).

### **Agencies:**

Currently, there is no system for collecting important data concerning children of incarcerated parents, which in turn makes it difficult to identify and provide adequate services and support for these children. In the majority of cases, schools and other agencies have no way of identifying children who are dealing with the immense stress of having a parent in prison. Therefore, the Task Force recommends that DHS' and PSD's data collection system be improved so these children don't fall between the cracks.

Interagency Coordination is vital to the success of the programs and services implemented in the State of Hawai'i. A system should be developed for DOE, DOH, PSD, OYS, DHS, Judiciary, and law enforcement to collect and share information regarding these children and to provide appropriate services for better outcomes.

### **Community:**

The entire Task Force needs to be 'Agents of Change' to help the wider community understand the issues of children whose parents are incarcerated. Community programs, churches, schools, and child-friendly businesses must be recruited to help with this outreach.

### **Funding:**

The SCR 128 Task Force respectfully requests that the Legislature fund the Task Force for at least one year so that DHS/PSD can provide administrative support to the Task Force, bring in Neighbor Island stakeholders and, if necessary, bring in experts from successful programs in other parts of the United States.

As a precursor to implementing programs and services for children of incarcerated parents, the SCR 128 Task Force sees a great need to improve the data collection system in order to identify the children of incarcerated parents as well as identifying where these children's parents are currently incarcerated. This will require an allocation to the Department of Public Safety to develop a system at the Department as well as a search of currently incarcerated inmate files to determine how many parents are entering or are currently in the Hawai'i correctional system, where these parents are incarcerated, and how many children of incarcerated parents are in Hawai'i.

A proposed budget detailing anticipated costs for extending the SCR Task Force is attached.

**If we don't stand up for children, then we don't stand for much.**

*Marian Wright Edelman*

Attachments:

1. SCR 128 SD1: Resolution establishing Task Force
2. Chapter 353D, HRS
3. Strengths and Assets: Programs that current exist in Hawai`i
4. Needs/Gaps/Barriers: Subcommittee report identifying issues
5. Data/Research: Subcommittee report
6. Executive Summary - Emerging Issues for Incarcerated Parents and Their Children: Hawai`i in a National Perspective by Thomas E. Lengyel, MSW, Ph.D. & Jamie Harris, M.A. - Alliance for Children and Families - October 2003
7. Children of Incarcerated Parents - A Bill of Rights - San Francisco Partnership for Incarcerated Parents
8. Listing of Organizations Specializing in Programs and Services for Incarcerated Parents and Their Children
9. Proposed Budget Detail and Explanation To Extend SCR 128 Task Force



**ATTACHMENT 1.**

THE SENATE  
TWENTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE, 2005  
STATE OF HAWAII

S.C.R. NO. 128  
S.D. 1

## SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING the department of public safety, Department of human services, and community partners to Establish a task force and to participate in developing programs and support services for children of incarcerated parents, as well as programs to strengthen the family bond.

WHEREAS, estimates suggest that more than 1.6 million children in the United States have a father in prison, and approximately 200,000 have a mother serving time in a state or federal prison or local jail; and

WHEREAS, a recent study estimates that there are more than three thousand persons currently incarcerated in Hawaii who are parents to nearly six thousand five hundred children, and nearly one-quarter of the State's felons are sent to mainland prisons and a number of inmates are incarcerated on an island that is different from their family's home; and

WHEREAS, the increasing rate of incarceration of women is particularly disturbing because it places more children at risk; approximately seventy-five per cent of female inmates are mothers, and many are often the sole caregiver of their children; and

WHEREAS, recent studies on the children of incarcerated parents affirm the negative impact of parental incarceration on their children, because when a parent is incarcerated, a child is at significantly greater risk for abuse and neglect, and the range of potential problems for the children is broad including physical and mental problems, school difficulties, aggressive behavior, and even an increased likelihood of criminal behavior by the child; and

WHEREAS, incarcerated parents require support to maintain family relationships and integrate effectively and efficiently into society after their release, and accurate information about the number of incarcerated parents and their children and families must be gathered before these problems can be addressed; and

WHEREAS, the problems of children whose parents are in prison must be addressed for humanitarian reasons and to break the cycle of crime and violence; and

WHEREAS, because the child welfare and criminal justice systems encounter many of the same families, it is imperative that they collaborate to maximize opportunities for the families and work together to develop a system to identify these children; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2005, the House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of Public Safety and the Department of Human Services are requested to establish a task force to identify and develop appropriate programs and services for children of incarcerated parents and to provide support for incarcerated parents, where appropriate; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force be comprised of the Director of Public Safety or a designee; the Deputy Director of the Corrections Division of Public Safety; the Administrator of Intake Service Centers of the Department of Public Safety; the Institutions Division Administrator of the Community Correctional Centers; the Director of Health or a designee; the Director of Human Services or a designee; the Executive Director of the Office of Youth Services or a designee; a representative of the Family Court of the First Circuit Court; the Director of the Children's Justice Center of Oahu; the Superintendent of Education or a designee; the Attorney General or a designee; a representative of Child Protective Services; a representative of the law enforcement community; a public member representative of incarcerated parents; a public member with experience in working with children of incarcerated parents; and public members with advocacy experience in working with children of incarcerated parents including Blueprint for Change, Child and Family Services, Community Alliance on Prisons, Good Beginnings Alliance, Hawaii Juvenile Justice Project, Keiki O Ka Aina Family Learning Centers, Neighborhood Place of Puna, and Neighborhood Place of Wailuku; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director of Human Services and the Director of Public Safety are requested to report findings and recommendations to the Legislature twenty days before the convening of the Regular Session of 2006; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Human Services and the Director of Public Safety.

## ATTACHMENT 2.

### [CHAPTER 353D] OFFENDER FAMILY SERVICE CENTER ACT

#### Section

##### 353D-1 Findings and purpose

**[§353D-1] Findings and purpose.** The legislature finds and declares that maintaining an inmate's family and community relationships is an effective correctional technique which reduces recidivism. The legislature further finds that enhancing visitor services increases the frequency and quality of visits, thereby discouraging violent prisoner activity; and that the location of prisons and the lack of services to assist visitors presently impede visiting. [L 1987, c 251, pt of §1]

##### 353D-2 Definitions

**[§353D-2] Definitions.** As used in this chapter:

"Center" means an offender family service center.

"Department" means that department of the State that has jurisdiction over the administration of the correctional facilities.

"Program" means the offender family service center program. [L 1987, c 251, pt of §1]

##### 353D-3 Offender family service center program; established

**§353D-3 Offender family service center program; established.** (a) There is established in the department an offender family service center program near the Oahu community correctional center.

(b) The department may contract with a private nonprofit agency pursuant to chapter 42D to implement this chapter. [L 1987, c 251, pt of §1; am L 1991, c 335, §13]

##### 353D-4 Advisory council

353D-4 Advisory council. There is established within the department for administrative purposes an offender family service center program advisory council. The council shall consist of seven members, of whom two shall be offender family members. The members of the council shall be appointed by the director of public safety in consultation with private secular and religious organizations. The council may review and make recommendations to the director to improve the services rendered by the center. [L 1987, c 251, pt of §1; am L 1988, c 141, §34; am L 1991, c 3, §3]

Chapter 42D referred to in text is repealed. The amendment made by L 1997, c 190, §6 is not included in this Supplement.

##### 353D-5 Purposes

**[§353D-5] Purposes.** The purposes of the program and center are to provide the following services to families of offenders:

- (1) Provision of clothing donated to the center by private organizations or individuals;
- (2) Information on regulations and procedures governing visits;
- (3) Referral to other agencies and services; and
- (4) A shelter area, outside of the security perimeter, for visitors and visitors' children who are waiting before or after visits. [L 1987, c 251, pt of §1]

##### 353D-6 Nonprofit agency: criteria for selection

**[§353D-6] Nonprofit agency: criteria for selection.** The department shall employ all the following criteria in selecting a nonprofit agency with which it may contract pursuant to section 353D-3:

- (1) The number and quality of services proposed in comparison to direct program costs;
- (2) Prior experience in working cooperatively with the department of social services and housing, other correctional agencies, community programs, inmates, visitors, and the general public;
- (3) The ability to use volunteers and other community resources to maximize the cost effectiveness

of the program. [L 1987, c 251, pt of §1]

#### 353D-7 Annual report

**[§353D-7] Annual report.** The agency administering the program shall annually submit to the department and to the legislature a report to include, but not limited to, the following:

- (1) A quantitative and narrative description of the services rendered;
- (2) A description of the impact of the centers' services to families;
- (3) A description of areas for improvement of services or coordination with other public or private agencies; and
- (4) A description of the community resources which were utilized. [L 1987, c 251, pt of §1]

#### 353D-8 Other provisions

**[§353D-8] Other provisions.** Nothing in this chapter is intended to limit the department in developing additional programs or making all reasonable efforts to promote services to families of offenders under its jurisdiction. [L 1987, c 251, pt of §1]

## ATTACHMENT 3.

# STRENGTHS AND ASSETS

## Chapter 353D, HRS OFFENDER FAMILY SERVICE CENTER ACT

**[\$353D-1] Findings and purpose.** The legislature finds and declares that maintaining an inmate's family and community relationships is an effective correctional technique which reduces recidivism. The legislature further finds that enhancing visitor services increases the frequency and quality of visits, thereby discouraging violent prisoner activity; and that the location of prisons and the lack of services to assist visitors presently impedes visiting. [L 1987, c 251, pt of §1]

### **EXISTING PROGRAMS:**

*Below is a list of programs that currently exist at some of our prisons. Although the list may look impressive, these programs service a small number of children and their incarcerated parents and their structure is inconsistent, since they are mostly dependent on grants, volunteers, and the generosity of businesses, churches, and the community to continue their service. Children of Incarcerated Parents deserve the support of the State of Hawai`i to help them grow into strong, well-adjusted members of our community.*

### **Keiki Hale at the Women's Community Correctional Center**

Keiki Hale is a child-friendly visitation room that was created, at no cost to the State, through a partnership with community, inmates, businesses, and caring people who work for the state. Inmates painted Keiki Hale with cartoon figures in bright colors and contributions filled it with toys, books, and games to enhance the mother-child visitation.

### **Supporting Parents as First Teachers (SPAFT) Preschool Program**

SPAFT or Supporting Parents as First Teachers is a curriculum developed by Good Beginnings Alliance. It is not a preschool program nor is the curriculum intended to develop preschool teachers. The curriculum is designed to strengthen families by increasing their knowledge of their role as first teachers to their children and to increase awareness of the importance of the early years. Good Beginnings, in partnership with Keiki O Ka Aina, facilitates the classes at WCCC and Waiawa to reach parents and the primary caregivers coping with issues of incarceration.

### **Kid's Day**

This is a program at the Women's Community Correctional Center that brings children and their parents together for a fun day of games, stories and togetherness. The ultimate goal of this program is to encourage and facilitate the strengthening of the family bond.

### **S.K.I.P./Nurturing Fathers Program at Waiawa Correctional Facility**

The Supporting Keiki of Incarcerated Parents (SKIP) Project aims to strengthen families, decrease abuse and neglect of children of incarcerated parents, and decrease the occurrence of repeat incarceration. SKIP was developed by Good Beginnings and HCD in partnership with Waiawa Correctional Facility, and TIFFE. It is funded by HMSA, Bank of Hawai`i, Hawai`i Children's Trust fund and other funding sources from businesses and Hawaii Coalition for Dads. Good Beginnings provides on-going technical support and training to sites interested in replicating the SKIP model. The SKIP program works with incarcerated fathers at Waiawa Correctional Facility and has been a model for No Na Kamali`i at the Maui Community

Correctional Center.

#### Updates:

- Good Beginnings on Kaua`i has just started SKIP in partnership with the Kauai CCC and the probation office and TIFFE. They connect parents awaiting trial to the playgroups for parent/child interaction and parenting classes....Nurturing Families program through TIFFE.
- Maui CCC has also begun a SKIP playgroup with the women under No Na Kamali`i-Wailuku Neighborhood Place, Good Beginnings and MCCC and QLCC.
- On O`ahu we Good Beginnings has invited Keiki O Ka `Aina to the table as a partner to implement playgroups at the Women`s CCC [Keiki Hale] and Waiawa Correctional Facility. Each year 18-20 fathers and 15-20 children have participated in two 12-week sessions of the SKIP/NF Project.

In addition to an educational play group, the program also enrolls fathers in a curriculum called Nurturing Fathers (NF) to help them develop good parenting skills. The combination of Supporting Parents As First Teachers (SPAFT) education groups, NF groups, Play and Learn groups, and child escort support groups is aimed to increase an incarcerated parent's ability to provide a safe and nurturing environment for young children.

#### **Total Life Recovery Program at the Women's Community Correctional Center**

The Total Life Recovery Program (TLRP) is a holistic program, initiated at no cost to the state, by Chaplain Bonnie Holcombe. This program includes parenting skills development and is supported by churches, businesses and community. TLRP, in partnership with Keiki O Ka `Aina, offers parenting and child development classes for preschool children and has started adolescent development classes, as well. TLRP will start the same weekly SPAFT for the women who have older children.

TLRP has already started a mentoring program through Keiki O Ka `Aina and is meeting with another group that also offers mentors. There is a great need for positive role models and mentors for the children of incarcerated parents. In an effort to address this need, TLRP has posted lists for women from our outer islands to sign up their children for the mentoring program on their island and hopes to do the same for Hawai`i`s women incarcerated in Otter Creek Correctional Center in Kentucky.

#### **Mentoring Children of Prisoners Programs**

Seven Hawai`i organizations are operating mentoring programs for children of incarcerated parents. Since 2003, Hawaii Youth Services Network has coordinated a program operating on O`ahu, Maui, and Kaua`i. Its partners include Big Brothers Big Sisters of Honolulu, Hawaii Intergenerational Network, Kaua`i Team Challenge, Keiki O Ka `Aina Family Learning Centers, and Maui Youth and Family Services. Honolulu Community Action Program started a mentoring program serving Windward Oahu in 2004.

#### **Angel Tree Network**

This program is operated nationally by Prison Fellowship and many churches in Hawai`i participate and give holiday gifts and celebrations, school supplies, etc. to children of incarcerated parents. The Catholic Church in Hawai`i does their own version of Angel Tree and invites all of the children of incarcerated parents and their caregivers and families to a huge party and dinner where they give holiday gifts to the children of woman incarcerated at the Women`s Community Correctional Center.

#### **Caregiver Support Group**

While the SPAFT (Supporting Parents as First Teachers preschool program) is taking place at WCCC,

Keiki o Ka `Aina provides a caregiver support group at the Kailua YMCA.

### **A Safe Place**

This program works directly with children of incarcerated parents as well as with their parents and grandparents. A Safe Place partners with the Women's Community Correctional Center to host Kids Day at the prison and develops meaningful, mentoring relationships that help children to know they are cared for. They plan to initiate a summer fun program for children of incarcerated parents and develop materials to help children know what to expect when a parent is in prison.

### **Wellspring Church**

This organization has been providing snacks, toys, games and other activities for Moms at WCCC to share with their children on Kids' Day at the prison.

### **Going Home**

This is a project of Child and Family Services to help the mother and her family with her transition back to the community and her family. The program works with the moms before they are released from prison and helps their transition by providing children-rearing issues, and the adjustment from institutional life to the community.

## **ATTACHMENT 4.**

### **CHILDREN OF INCARCERATED PARENTS Findings of Needs/Gaps/Barriers Sub-committee October 3, 2005**

#### **Needs**

1. system needs to mandate a parenting advocate to impress upon caregivers the importance of connections
2. support group for caregivers
3. age appropriate visiting; areas with welcoming atmosphere
4. dedicated staff to plan for family re-unification
5. id parents who should not be shipped away
6. parenting screening at intake; parenting plan , how many keiki, who cares for them
7. provide counseling for parents and keiki
8. id schools where the keiki attend
9. protocol for full body contact
10. treatment for visiting children
11. improve video conferencing system; technically, US, 1 x per week, 30 minutes, neighbor islands
12. reduce cost of phone calls
13. develop parenting plan
14. creating a visitation program
15. web cam outreach workers to go to homes
16. check out web cams or videoconferencing facilities at high school

#### **Gaps**

1. neighbor island connections
2. expanding programs that enhance visits
3. phone calls (neighbor island and mainland); check out computer web cams
4. interagency coordination; designee for each agency responsible for implementation); DOE, DOH, DHS, OYS, PSD, Judiciary
5. no policy in place
6. HYCF has policy that kids cannot have visits with the incarcerated parent. Cannot take kids to the adult facility
7. CPS; DHS needs point person to collaborate with PSD
8. on-going awareness training program
9. establish incarcerated parents bill of rights

#### **Barriers**

1. lockdowns
2. security attitude/protocol
3. funding
4. drug addiction is a criminal act mindset
5. lack of priority given to parenting
6. lack of understanding that treatment works
7. punitive environment
8. cost of phone calls
9. length of visits
10. lack of coordination



11. shipping people away; only criteria for shipping inmates is time remaining to serve
12. need to look at other factors besides length of time to serve
13. more programming; meaningful activity; not enough diversity in options; stay connected to family

## ATTACHMENT 5.

### CHILDREN OF INCARCERATED PARENTS REPORT OF DATA/RESEARCH SUBCOMMITTEE

**Data/Research:** The State of Hawaii lacks data on the status, characteristics, and service needs of children of incarcerated parents. At present, no systematic mechanism exists at the state government level to determine the extent of this underserved population of children and youth. Estimates based on secondary data analyses of a study of female offenders in Hawaii and national statistics suggest that there are some 6,000 children in the State with an incarcerated parent.<sup>[1]</sup> This figure does not include those children whose lives were impacted at some point in the past by parental incarceration or those whose parents may be incarcerated in the future.

These children, whose accumulating numbers are in excess of the previous estimate, may well suffer the psycho-social damage of parental incarceration for some time to come. These effects include economic disadvantage, psychological problems (including trauma), and increased rates of school failure, delinquency, aggression, and future incarceration.<sup>[2]</sup> Thus, given the growth of the incarcerated population over the previous decade and its anticipated future growth, the total number of children whose lives are disrupted by parental incarceration may be quite large indeed. Given the accumulating scientific evidence on poor outcomes related to parental incarceration, coupled with an increasing rate of incarceration, it is clear that this is a significant and growing child welfare issue. The State of Hawaii is not alone in attempting to deal with the impact of incarceration on families. We join a number of states that are beginning to grapple with this child welfare problem and the lack of data associated with it. Indeed, very few jurisdictions gather data on children of arrested and incarcerated persons. While privacy concerns about this especially vulnerable population must inform our approach, obtaining data on their numbers and characteristics is crucial to service planning and provision. We will want to ensure that data collection is undertaken in ways that protect families against unwarranted state intrusion and social stigma while ensuring child welfare. The Sub-Committee on Data and Research has identified several objectives that are foundational research steps in developing protocols that will support the welfare of this population of children:

- *Needs Assessment: Law Enforcement & Child Welfare Coordination at Parental Arrest*<sup>[3]</sup>
  - Parents enter the criminal justice system at the point of arrest—a point at which dependent children are highly vulnerable. Little is known about how county law enforcement coordinates with child welfare agencies when a parent is arrested. A needs assessment is required to determine the following:
    - What policies and practices local Child Welfare Services branches have formulated for responding to law enforcement requests for assistance with minor children.
    - What policies and practices have been formulated by local law enforcement for responding to child welfare issues upon the arrest of a parent, especially a custodial parent.
    - Which community-based organizations may play a role in responding to child welfare concerns upon parental arrest. Arrested parents may fear that their parental rights will be jeopardized as a result of being arrested and may be reluctant to discuss their children with police. Community-based organizations may play an

important role in providing services to such parents and their children. More needs to be known about the potential role of community-based organizations in helping parents make good choices about child placement at the time of arrest.

- *Data Collection: Sentencing and Incarceration*
  - Sentencing: The time of sentencing is an important point at which data on offenders' children might be collected. Pre-sentence Investigations (PSIs) are compiled by the judiciary on individuals undergoing sentencing. These confidential reports contain information on the dependents of the subject offender and are a point where information about the status of minor children might be compiled in a more systematic way.
  - A parent's entry into a correctional facility is another point at which this information may be collected. Upon intake, information may be collected for the sake of notification.
- *Needs Assessment on Children of the Incarcerated.*
  - Based on the systematic collection of data upon arrest, at sentencing, and incarceration, a needs assessment on the status and characteristics of this population ought to be produced.

Absent these data, a scientific study of a representative sample of this population, their parents, and caregivers should be conducted using survey and interview methodologies. Research questions should include socioeconomic data, educational and health profile, current service utilization and needs for services, accommodation to parental incarceration, and other pertinent information.

<sup>1</sup> Lengyel, Thomas E. 2003. *Emerging Issues for Incarcerated Parents and their Children: Hawaii in a National Perspective*. Department of Research and Evaluation Services, Alliance for Children and Families. White Paper Commissioned by Child and Family Services, Hawaii.

<sup>2</sup> Gabel, Kathleen and Denise Johnston. 1995. *Children of Incarcerated Parents*. New York: Lexington.

<sup>3</sup> See for example a study conducted by the California Research Bureau: Nieto, Marcus. (2002) *In Danger of Falling Through the Cracks: Children of Arrested Parents*.

## **ATTACHMENT 6.**

*(N.B. This report was written by Dr. Thomas E. Lengyel and presented at the Children of Incarcerated Parents conference in October 2003.)*

### **Emerging Issues for Incarcerated Parents and Their Children: Hawaii in a National Perspective**

Thomas E. Lengyel, MSW, Ph.D.

Jamie Harris, M.A.

Alliance for Children and Families

October 2003

The number of parents in prisons and jails in the United States escalated during the 1990's, growing about 59% between 1991 and 1999. They are currently in the majority among inmates, and parents with minor children comprise about 56% of all state and federal prisoners. The precise numbers of both incarcerated parents and their children are not known for Hawaii because the correctional system does not collect and integrate this information into their administrative database. That fact symbolizes a central feature of the correctional system: It is designed for autonomous adults rather than parents.

Hawaii incarcerates fewer of its citizens overall than many other states, but has distinguished itself since 1995 in the growth of its female prison population. If yearend 2002 rates are representative, Hawaii incarcerates 69 out of every 100,000 women, a rate that is higher than 36 other states. Applying national proportions to the counts of prisoners in Hawaii's prisons and correctional centers suggests that there are just over 3,000 parents incarcerated in Hawaii today, and they are parents to almost 6,500 children.

Hawaii's special circumstances result in much greater obstacles to contact between incarcerated parents and their families than is true on the mainland. The State sends approximately 25% of its felons to private prisons in Oklahoma and Arizona. In addition, due to the distribution of prisons, a fair number of state prison inmates are placed on an island different from their residence. This is especially so for female felons, since the only women's prison is on Oahu. These arrangements almost foreclose contact of such parents with their families, and also impede contact between child welfare professionals and parents on child welfare issues. As a consequence, incarcerated parents in Hawaii probably receive fewer family visits, on average, than their mainland counterparts, who reported sparing contact with their children. Even for inmates who are within reach of their families, the visiting environment is generally unfriendly, particularly for children, and there are few programs in Hawaii that cater to this need.

A broad literature on children of incarcerated parents has developed in recent years, most of which documents the negative impact of the incarceration. The effects include a broad range of undesirable outcomes, such as physical and mental problems, difficulty in school, aggressive behavior, and even the increased likelihood of criminal behavior by the children themselves. The research demonstrates that children are at increased risk of abuse and neglect when a parent is sent away.

Emergent research is now trying to document the social costs of incarcerating a person, setting up the possibility of cost-benefit analysis for the net cost of imprisonment (i.e., lockup plus social cost). Early indications suggest that the social cost of incarcerating a person is in the neighborhood of twice the cost of keeping the person in a cell. Both lockup and social costs are higher for women and higher still for mothers with dependent children. Previous economic research identified the likely social benefits for adding a prisoner, based on a corresponding reduction in the number of crimes committed, and on a dollar value assigned to each of these crimes. It appears that the community is losing money on some prisoners who commit non-violent offenses, and particularly on mothers with dependent children who are doing

time for drug abuse or possession.

Both federal and state policies contribute to the difficulties that parents and their children face when the parent goes to prison. In particular, the state is urged by federal law to begin termination proceedings against a parent whose child has been in placement for 15 of the last 22 months. More generally, fathers in prison are frequently treated as invisible men, and are seldom engaged by social workers in child welfare decision-making, planning, or as a resource for their children.

The State can do much to improve the circumstances documented here. It might prudently begin by committing itself to systematically gathering accurate information about incarcerated parents, their children, and their families on the outside. There are also many options for enhancing visiting in prisons and correctional centers, not all of which are costly. The State must mandate consultation with incarcerated parents when decisions about their children are contemplated if it takes seriously its professed loyalty to the family as an institution. Many imprisoned parents and the caregivers to their children require services and support. Outstanding among these is the need in Hawaii for professional inpatient and outpatient substance abuse treatment, both in prison and in community settings.

### **Findings and Future Directions**

A variety of recommendations arise directly from this review of the research. Other very recent resources that speak to some of the same issues have been produced by the Center for Law and Social Policy (2003), by advocates, and by program operators (Bue112003), and are worth consulting. We recall here evidence and arguments advanced above and suggest legislative, regulatory, and policy responses for the State of Hawaii and the federal government. Some of the following recommendations would require action at both levels.

**Finding #1:** We lack accurate knowledge about the number of prisoners who are mothers and fathers, and about their children and families because the prison intake process gathers only perfunctory information about families. What sparse information is gathered is not uploaded to central databases and cannot be analyzed.

As a matter of course, jails and prisons must gather information about an inmate's family, including dependents, at the time of intake.

This must include demographic information on all children, on custody (legal and informal), on care giving arrangements, and on services needed or anticipated. Inmate parents must have the right and ability to update this information.

The Department of Public Safety must integrate family information into its central databank on prisoners on a regular basis.

**Finding #2:** Incarcerated parents risk losing a role in their children's lives due to restrictions on their ability to communicate freely, lack of outreach to incarcerated parents, particularly fathers, by child welfare professionals, and the provisions of federal laws governing adoption.

The State must ensure that child welfare authorities remain in touch with incarcerated parents, especially fathers.

The case planning process for children of incarcerated parents in the child welfare system should require consultation with the parent.

Inmate-parents should have court-appointed counsel in child welfare cases.

The state should grant exceptions for incarcerated parents from the 15month rule of the Adoption and Safe Families Act under the "best interest of the child" exception.

**Finding #3:** Prisoner-parents have infrequent contact with their children caused in part by placement far from their families. Placement on the mainland, based on economic considerations, forecloses the possibility of visits.

The State should factor in the ability to maintain parent-child contact when making prison placements.

- Parent inmates should be placed on the basis of the "best interest of the family" rather than on the basis of economics or administrative convenience.

**Finding #4:** The predominant pattern of post-release residence with extended family or relatives due to inadequate housing options burdens relationships with extended family, complicates reunification with children, and transfers the costs of punishment to others.

The State should invest in post-release housing options and support for reentering parents.

Means should be developed to assist parent-prisoners in arranging their own housing prior to release, including furloughs for this purpose when appropriate.

**Finding #5:** Research that explores the effect of a parent's incarceration on their children focuses on incarcerated mothers and relies almost exclusively on reports of caregivers as to the status and outcomes for the children themselves.

The State should sponsor research based on direct contact with children that examines the impact of their parent's incarceration, to supplement existing research based on reports of caregivers.

A segment of this research should focus on the relationship of incarcerated fathers with their children, and the long term impact on the children.

**Finding #6:** Substance abuse treatment services are grossly inadequate both in prison and in the communities to which prisoners return. Community-based treatment has few residential slots that allow parents to continue residing with their children.

The State should invest sufficient resources to provide appropriate substance abuse treatment on demand both in the community and in prison, without waiting lists.

Substance abuse treatment for inmates must be graded based on an assessment of the inmate's level of need.

Community-based treatment must include an adequate number of residential beds that serve families.

**Finding #7:** Non-custodial parents are unable to pay child support while in prison. Large arrearages and state capture of support payments to recover public assistance discourage parents with child support obligations from working in the legitimate labor market and supporting their children. "

Child support orders for non-custodial parents should be set at zero at the time of sentencing, lasting until 60 days after release.

The State should pass through all support payments to families.

- The State should forgive arrearages owed the state in exchange for realistic ongoing payments.

**Finding #8:** Children's visits to their parents are encumbered by physical environments and policies that discourage the development of their relationship with the parent.

The State should create a friendly visiting environment for families and children and encourage contact through a greatly expanded set of programs.

Visiting areas must include information and resource displays including prison policies, visiting and mail rules, community supports for families of inmates, and resources for families (e.g., how to explain jail and prison to children).

Kid's Day should be held at least monthly.

Facilities for overnight stays for children should be established at the Women's Community Correctional Center.

~ Full contact visits for children and parents should be the norm at all institutions.

**Finding #9:** Grandparents and other relatives play a very significant role in caring for the children of incarcerated parents and managing the child's relationship with the imprisoned parent. They seldom have adequate resources to fulfill this role and they experience considerable stress.

The State should initiate supports for grandparent and relative caregivers of children with parents in prison.

Supports should include provision of respite care, housing assistance, chore services, parenting support, and material support comparable to what is provided to foster parents.

**Finding #10:** Considerable social costs accrue for the incarceration of a parent that are probably 200% the cost of lockup. Therefore, for certain offenders, the net cost of their incarceration likely exceeds the corresponding social benefit.

The State should shift from incarceration to community supervision and support for certain classes of inmates who are now serving time.

Men and women with dependent children who have committed only nonviolent offenses should preferentially be placed in community settings.

Men and women who have committed only crimes involving substance use and abuse should receive treatment in a community setting rather than incarceration.

Funds currently deployed to incarcerate these classes of inmates should be gradually shifted to support community placement and the services needed to achieve this.

## ATTACHMENT 7.

*(N.B. Please note that this Bill of Rights for Children of Incarcerated Parents was adopted by the City of San Francisco. The SCR 128 Task Force is using this model to suggest that Hawai'i adopt something similar.)*

### BILL OF RIGHTS for CHILDREN OF INCARCERATED PARENTS *San Francisco Partnership for Incarcerated Parents*

1. I have the right **to be kept safe and informed at the time of my parent's arrest.**
  - Develop arrest protocols that support and protect arrestees' children but do not unnecessarily involve the child welfare system and increase the risk for permanent separation
  - Recruit and train advocates to support children during and/or after a parent's arrest.
2. I have the right **to be heard when decisions are made about me.**
  - Create a voice for children in court proceedings that will affect their lives.
  - Listen.
3. I have the right **to be considered when decisions are made about my parents.**
  - Ensure that sentencing laws, guidelines and decision fulfill their public safety function without causing unnecessary harm to children.
  - Turn arrest into an opportunity for family preservation.
4. I have the right **to be well cared for in my parent's absence.**
  - Support children by supporting their caretakers.
  - Consider subsidized guardianship as an alternative to foster care for children of incarcerated parents.
5. I have the right **to speak with, see and touch my parent.**
  - Provide access to prison visiting facilities that are child-centered, non-intimidating and conducive to bonding.
  - Consider proximity to family members when assigning prisoners to a particular facility, and when making foster care placements of children of prisoners.
  - Encourage social service departments to facilitate telephone and in-person contact between children in their care and incarcerated parents.
6. I have the right **to support as I struggle with my parent's incarceration.**
  - Train staff at institutions whose constituency includes children of incarcerated parents -- schools, foster care agencies, juvenile detention centers, child care programs -- to recognize and address these children's needs and concerns.
  - Provide access to therapists, counselors and/or mentors who are trained to address the unique needs of children of incarcerated parents.
7. I have the right **not to be judged, blamed or labeled because of my parent's incarceration.**
  - Create opportunities for children of incarcerated parents to communicate with and support each other.



- Offer an ear, and respect for privacy.
- Create a truth fit to tell.

**8. I have the right to a lifelong relationship with my parent.**

- Re-examine the Adoption and Safe Families Act (ASFA) as it applies to incarcerated parents to ensure that viable families are not dissolved because of rigid timelines for termination of parental rights.
- Designate a family services coordinator at prison and jail facilities whose role it is to facilitate family contact and support reunification.
- Support incarcerated parents upon re-entry.
- Focus on rehabilitation for non-violent offenders whose children are otherwise at risk of becoming the responsibility of the state.

## ATTACHMENT 8.



### **Children Left Behind: Incarceration Harms Families**

The number of parents in U.S. prisons and jails during the 1990s has grown by nearly 60 percent. The nation's incarcerated population now exceeds 2 million people. Parents with minor children comprise more than 55 percent of all state and federal prisoners.

There are more than 3,000 parents incarcerated in Hawaii, and they are parents to almost 6,500 children. Between 1996 and 1997, Hawaii had the highest percentage of growth in its prison population, at nearly 25 percent.

Children of incarcerated parents are more likely to develop emotional and behavioral difficulties, including withdrawal, aggression, anxiety and depression as a result of the enforced separation.

Several leading Hawaii agencies co-sponsored "Children of Prisoners: Impact on the Innocent," a workshop held October 30 to 31, 2003 in conjunction with the Child Welfare League of America. State and national child welfare experts offered their views on how best to help these children and their parents. Panels addressed the family perspective, community issues, and promising programs to lessen the impact on children of incarcerated parents.

Thomas E. Lengyel, Director of Research and Evaluation Services for the Alliance for Children and Families, offered his views on emerging issues for incarcerated parents and their children in Hawaii. Lengyel, MSW, Ph.D., and Jamie Harris, M.A., were commissioned by Child & Family Service to complete a white paper on this topic.

The growing number of local mothers in prison is especially troubling. Hawaii lacks a database to collect information about parents in prisons. By applying national proportions to the state's prisons and correctional centers, Hawaii incarcerates 69 out of every 100,000 women in the state, a rate that is higher than 36 other states. About 35 percent of these women are in prison primarily for drug-related offenses.

Since they are often the sole support for their children, separation can be even more traumatic and disruptive. Children of incarcerated parents often exhibit physical and mental problems, school difficulties, and aggressive or even criminal behavior. They are also at increased risk for abuse and neglect.

Hawaii sends about 25 percent of its felons to private prisons in Oklahoma and Arizona. Since the only women's prison is on Oahu, many female prisoners are placed on an island different from their residence. These circumstances present greater obstacles to contact between incarcerated parents and their children than is true on the Mainland.

Fathers in prison are often treated as invisible and are seldom supported as a positive resource for their children. For inmates in closer proximity to their children, the visiting environment is generally not family oriented. Moreover, there are few programs in Hawaii that encourage and support family visits for prisoners.

Lengyel recommends that Hawaii's child welfare officials mandate consultation with incarcerated parents when decisions about their children are contemplated. He also identifies a critical need for professional inpatient and outpatient substance abuse treatment services both in prison and in the communities in which prisoners return to live with their children. Without these changes, Lengyel predicts, Hawaii can expect a continued or higher rate of recidivism among sentenced methamphetamine users.

Lengyel recently returned to Hawaii to give a presentation at the initial meeting of the Children of Incarcerated Prisoners Task Force. In 2003 he had compiled a list of national programs designed for children of incarcerated prisoners and their families. In preparation for the SCR 128 Children of Incarcerated Parents task force in Hawaii, that list has begun to be updated by Lengyel and the Blueprint for Change. Additional listings have been included to the original 2003 document and put into an Index form for easier reading. These resources will greatly add to the task force's ability to develop programs for children of incarcerated prisoners.

This index is a work in progress. If you would like more information about the list or have corrections or suggestions for other entries to be included, send an e-mail to Lydia Hemmings, Executive Director of Blueprint for Change at: [Blueprint4Change@aol.com](mailto:Blueprint4Change@aol.com)

# Organizations Specializing in Programs and Services for Incarcerated Parents and Their Children

## A

## B

Bedford Hills Correctional Facility  
Children's Center Catholic Charities  
Diocese of Brooklyn  
247 Harris Rd., Bedford Hills, NY 10507  
Director: Toni Campoamor  
Telephone: (914) 241-3100 ext. 4050

This facility provides a nursery, infant center and children's center. Programs include a summer program, overnight program, individual counseling, foster care, children's advocates and the taping of children's stories.

## C

Center For Children of Incarcerated Parents  
P. O. Box 41-286, Eagle Rock, CA 90041  
Telephone: (626) 449-2470  
E-mail: [ccip@earthlink.net](mailto:ccip@earthlink.net)  
[www.e-ccip.org](http://www.e-ccip.org)

The Center for Children of Incarcerated Parents offers a variety of education and training programs to serve children of criminal offenders and their families. They offer a variety of correspondence courses nationwide as well as regional courses and training. They house several other programs and research projects working with this population as well as a clearinghouse that distributes publications and audiovisuals both free and at a cost.

Centerforce  
64 Main Street P.O. Box 336, San Quentin, CA 94964  
Telephone: (415) 456-9980  
E-mail: [info@centerforce.org](mailto:info@centerforce.org)  
[www.centerforce.org](http://www.centerforce.org)

Centerforce administers a variety of services for inmates and their families in California facilities including programs, educational materials, groups, therapy and case management. Their website offers links to resources on parenting, substance abuse, youth and children mentoring programs and services, and support groups.

CFAD (Continuite Famille Aupres Des Detenues)  
661 Rose de Lima, Montreal, Quebec, Canada H4C 2L7  
Executive Director: Yolande Trepanier; Other contacts: Tracy or Lynn  
Telephone: (514) 989-9891

E-mail: [cfad@cam.org](mailto:cfad@cam.org)

Founded in 1985, CFAD maintains a mother-child program that allows women to reside with their children for a portion of each week at the Maison Tanguay premises. The organization also operates a center for women to regroup with their children at the time of their release. At the center is a food bank, clothing outlet, music and art program for children, a nature camp and family style celebrations for holidays. The organization is in the process of developing workshops for mothers on employment, first aid, meditation, etc. CFAD serves both inmates and low-income women in their neighborhood who have difficulties with the law.

## D

## E

Elizabeth Fry Center  
519 17<sup>th</sup> St, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, Oakland, CA 94612  
Telephone: (415) 681-0430

This facility is operated by Volunteers of America. It is a halfway house for inmate mothers and their children (under 6) offering parenting education.

## F

Family & Corrections Network  
32 Oak Grove Road, Palmyra, VA 22963  
Contact: Jim Mustin, Executive Director  
Telephone: (434) 589-3036  
E-mail: [fcnet@fcnetwork.org](mailto:fcnet@fcnetwork.org)  
[www.fcnetwork.org](http://www.fcnetwork.org)

The Family and Corrections Network provides ways for those concerned with families of prisoners to share information and through publishing, sponsoring conferences, liaison with other agencies, presentations, and consultation. FCN has published information on children of prisoners, parenting programs for prisoners, prison visiting, incarcerated fathers, hospitality programs and a variety of other topics. In addition they provide a more comprehensive list and review of past and existing programs on their website. Several of those programs are included in the list below.

Families in Crisis, Inc.  
30 Arbor St., Hartford, CT 06106  
Telephone: (203) 236-3593  
Contact: Joyce Betts, Director of Programs  
E-mail: [admin@familiesincrisis.org](mailto:admin@familiesincrisis.org)  
[www.familiesincrisis.org](http://www.familiesincrisis.org)

Families in Crisis, Inc., offers information and outreach and houses several programs: 1) Family Counseling and Support Programs, FACT (Fathers and Children Together), Fathers Work Program, Youth Enrichment Services (The YES Program); Transportation, Children's Centers-The Sesame Street Program; and Domestic Violence Offender Services. The organizations website provides program descriptions and summary of program results.

### Family Works

Parent Organization: The Osborne Association  
175 Remsen St, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor, Brooklyn, NY 11201  
Telephone: (718) 237-0686  
E-mail: [info@osborneny.org](mailto:info@osborneny.org)  
[www.isborneny.org](http://www.isborneny.org)

FamilyWorks offers a prison-based parenting education program for incarcerated fathers; visiting centers for fathers and their families at men's State prisons; and community-based services for families. As part of their counseling program, FamilyWorks offers a community-based Family Resource Center hotline for prisoners' families throughout New York state. Upon release all graduates of the FamilyWorks program are eligible for a substance abuse treatment and job placement program.

### Friends Outside National Organization

P O Box 4085, Stockton, CA 95204  
Contact: Gretchen Newby  
Telephone: (209) 938-0727

Friends Outside provides case management services in state prisons, including assistance with family issues and crisis intervention, a parenting education program for incarcerated parents, the Children's Visiting Program and prerelease planning.

## G

### Girl Scouts Beyond Bars

National Institute of Justice, U.S. Department of Justice  
633 Indiana Ave., N.W., Room 805 Washington, DC 20531  
Telephone: (202) 514-6205  
[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij/pubs-sum/156217.htm](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij/pubs-sum/156217.htm)

The Girl Scouts Beyond Bars program is an innovative inmate mother-daughter "visitation plus" program. At most sites, an inmate mother-daughter Girl Scout troop meeting is held at the correctional facility. On alternative weeks the daughter participates in community Girl Scout troop meetings. The NIJ recommends contacting Local Girl Scout Organizations for updated information. Information on the first four pilot programs can be found at the above Web site.

### Good News Jail and Prison Ministry

P.O. Box 9760  
Richmond, VA 23228-0760  
Phone: 804-553-4090  
E-mail: [info@goodnewsjail.org](mailto:info@goodnewsjail.org)  
Local Contact: Chaplain Dennis Yokota: 372-7213  
Leighton Oshira 398-7031

Good News Jail & Prison Ministry was incorporated in the Commonwealth of Virginia in December 1961 as a non-profit organization formed for the purposes of organizing a visitation program for the benefit of inmates of institutions in the State; witnessing to inmates and their families; aiding in a physical and spiritual rehabilitation of men and women upon their release from an institution; and provision of an

educational program within the institutions to encourage continuance of formal education among the inmates, as permitted by said institutions. Hawaii

Grandparent Caregiver Advocacy Project (GCAP)  
Legal Services for Parents with Children (LSPC)  
1540 Market St., Suite 490, San Francisco, CA 94102  
Telephone: (415) 255-7036  
E-mail: [info@prisonerswithchildren.org](mailto:info@prisonerswithchildren.org), or [lspc@igc.apc.org](mailto:lspc@igc.apc.org)

The Grandparent Caregiver Advocacy Project provides direct legal and social service assistance and peer support to grandparent caregiver families. It also provides a platform for education and policy advocacy to address their needs. A grant report from August 2000 can be found on the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation  
[www.rwjf.org/reports/grr/0246195.htm](http://www.rwjf.org/reports/grr/0246195.htm)

## H

## I

## J

Justice Resource Centre  
John Howard Society of Manitoba  
583 Ellice Avenue, Winnipeg, MB Canada R3B IZ7  
Telephone: (204) 775-1514  
E-mail: [office@johnhoward.mb.ca](mailto:office@johnhoward.mb.ca)  
[www.johnhoward.mb.ca](http://www.johnhoward.mb.ca)

The Justice Resource Centre is a gathering place for nonprofit, justice-related agencies and individuals who promote the development of safe and peaceful communities. The center provides office and meeting space for the agencies, in addition to space set aside for occasional use by victim self-help groups, offender self-help programs and neighborhood groups.

## K

## L

Long Distance Dads  
National Fatherhood Initiative  
Pennsylvania Department of Probation and Parole  
[www.fatherhood.org/lddads](http://www.fatherhood.org/lddads)

Telephone: (240)n912-1280

Long Distance Dads focuses on universal aspects of fatherhood as well as the unique challenges faced by incarcerated fathers. It is a character-based education and support program that assists incarcerated men in developing skills to become more involved and supportive fathers. The curriculum consists of 12 modules, each delivered in two to three hours. The program is designed to be facilitated by trained peer leaders in 12 weekly sessions in a small group format. The program can be delivered in a shorter time span, however, such as twice a week. This adaptability makes the program ideal for use in county institutions and other correctional facilities and programs in which men are incarcerated for a short time (e.g., halfway houses).

## M

The Motherhead Program  
North Carolina Correctional Institution for Women (NCCIW)  
North Carolina State Department of Corrections  
National Headquarters of Motherhead, Inc.  
Suite 7, 3924 Browning Place  
Raleigh, NC 27609  
Phone: 919.781.2088  
Fax: 919.571.8579  
[www.motheread.org](http://www.motheread.org)

The NCCIW is a maximum security facility that houses 800 women. It introduced the Motherhead Program to foster healthy parenting and emotional well-being through innovative education classes that focus on story sharing with children. Classes of eight to 10 students are read books aloud by instructors who ask them how they would feel in certain situations depicted. The inmates improve their literacy skills when they make book audio tapes that they send home to their children. These activities foster communication and strengthen family bonds within the family.

## N

National Institute of Corrections  
U.S. Department of Justice  
320 First Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20534  
[www.nicic.org](http://www.nicic.org)

“Serving Children and Families of Adult Offenders” is a project of the National Institute of Corrections, U.S. Department of Justice completed in April 2005. It lists 168 programs offered in 35 states, including Save Kids of Incarcerated Parents, the Federal Resource Center for Children of Prisoners, Aid to Children of Imprisoned Mothers and Prison Families Anonymous. It also lists programs offering national services, such as the Center for Children of Incarcerated Parents, the Federal Resource Center for Children of Prisoners, and Prisoners of Love.



Neil J. Houston House  
MA Department of Corrections  
Community Residential Services  
180 Morton St, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Jamaica Plain, MA  
Telephone: (617) 445-3066  
Neil J. Houston House  
Telephone: (617) 727-4672  
[www.state.ma.us/doc/facility/Fcommunity.html](http://www.state.ma.us/doc/facility/Fcommunity.html)

The Neil J. Houston House is a residential, prerelease, substance abuse treatment program. Administered by Social Justice for Women, Inc., it is a national model offering an alternative to incarceration and mother-infant separation for pregnant, nonviolent offenders and their infants.

## O

Ohio Reformatory for Women (Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction)  
1479 Collins Avenue  
Marysville, OH 43040  
Telephone: (937) 642-1065

This facility offers Merit Family Day as part of the Merit Housing program. As a behavior incentive, inmates are allowed to participate in activities with their children since they are not allowed during normal visitation (i.e. sporting events, music, skits). ORW also offers Achieving Baby Care Success (ABC's), which allows incarcerated pregnant inmates to maintain custody of their infants after birth and includes parenting instruction.

## P

PACT – Hawaii  
Parents and Children Together  
1435 Linapuni Street, Honolulu, HI 96813  
Telephone: (808) 841-2245  
Contact: Greg Farstrup, Fatherhood Network Coordinator, Hawaii Coalition for Dads (Nurturing Fathers)  
Email: [hlgfstrup@pacthawaii.org](mailto:hlgfstrup@pacthawaii.org)  
Under PACT is a Nurturing Fathers program. Growing out of that initial program there are now four prison related activities: Parents as First Teachers, Nurturing Fathers, Play and Learn Group, Escort Support Group, at Waiawa Prison. Good Beginnings Alliance partners with PACT and TIFFY (The Institute for Family Enrichment) for these activities.

PACT  
Parents and Children Together  
2836 Hemphill Street, Fort Worth, TX 76110  
Telephone: (817) 524-7776  
Contact: Donna Bailey, Executive Director  
E-mail: [dawna@azmail.net](mailto:dawna@azmail.net)

PACT provides transportation, overnight lodging, a hospitality and children's center in visiting area, parent education, self-help support group, information and referrals, case management, religious ministry, and family reunification support.

Project HIP (Helping Incarcerated Parents)  
Maine Correctional Center  
17 Mallison Rd, Windham, ME 04062  
Telephone: (207) 892-6716

Project HIP supports incarcerated parents, offering support and continuing education groups. It brings together incarcerated parents and their children for increased parenting skills. A handbook called "Prisoners as Parents: Building Parenting Skills on the Inside" is available from the National Child Welfare Resource Center for Organizational Improvement (800) HELP KID.

Project IMPACT/Peanut Butter & Jelly  
1101 Lopez Southwest, Albuquerque, NM 87105  
Telephone: (505) 877-7060

Project IMPACT provides inmates in their last year at Central New Mexico Correctional Facility with an optional program of classes and counseling. It offers support and education for their families, including a therapeutic visitation program for children.

Project SEEK (Services to Enable and Empower Kids)  
175 Ramsey St, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor, Brooklyn, NY 11201  
Contact: Carol Burton-Barnett, Program Consultant  
Telephone: (718) 637-6560  
E-mail: cburton@osbourneny.org

Note: This program is no longer operating. A review of the program can be found on the Family and Corrections Network website: [www.fcnetwork.org](http://www.fcnetwork.org). Project SEEK offered services to children of inmates that included case management, tutoring, developmental assessment, advocacy, prison visits, home visits and support groups.

## Q

## R

Reconciliation Ministries  
P.O. Box 90827, Nashville, TN 37209  
Telephone: (615) 292-6371

Reconciliation Ministries is composed of Separate Prisons (a support group for women, children and youth with a loved one in prison) and The Guest House for families visiting inmates. It provides a visiting handbook offering advocacy, counseling, and referral information on community education for families.

**S**

**T**

**U**

**V**

**W**

**X**

**Y**

**Z**

## **Sources on Programs for Incarcerated Parents and Children**

Sources listed below in **bold** have full copies of the articles supplied.

(1) **As Inmate Population Grows, So Does a Focus on Children. (cover story)**

Authors: Butterfield, Fox

Source: New York Times; 04/07/99, Vol. 148 Issue 51485, pA1, 0p, 3bw

Document Type: Article  
Subject Terms: \*CHILDREN of prisoners  
\*JUVENILE delinquents  
\*PARENT & child  
\*PRISONERS  
\*PRISON visits  
\*FAMILY relations  
Social aspects

Psychological aspects

Geographic Terms: UNITED States

Abstract: Discusses the effect of parental imprisonment on children's risks of becoming juvenile delinquents and adult criminals. Estimate of the number of United States children who have an incarcerated parent or close relative; Number of juveniles in custody who have a parent or other close relative who has been incarcerated; Lack of agreement about the impact of children's visits to incarcerated relatives; Development of programs to help incarcerated parents.

ISSN: 0362-4331 Accession Number: 1703831

Persistent link to this record:

<http://search.epnet.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=afh&an=1703831>

### **(2) Children of Inmates: What Happens to These Unintended Victims?**

Authors: Lee, Arlene F.1

Source: Corrections Today; Jun2005, Vol. 67 Issue 3, p84-95, 4p

Document Type: Article

Subject Terms: \*CHILDREN of prisoners

\*IMPRISONMENT

\*PARENT & child

\*PARENTS

\*CHILDREN of criminals

Abstract: Focuses on the impact of the incarceration of parents on their children. Benefits of supporting the relationship between incarcerated parents and their children; Challenges encountered by such children in surviving the incarceration of a parent; Information on programs that provide services to families of prisoners.

Author Affiliations: Director, Federal Resource Center for Children of Prisoners, Washington, D.C.

Full Text Word Count: 1785

ISSN: 0190-2563

Accession Number: 17171907

Persistent link to this record:

<http://search.epnet.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=afh&an=17171907>

### **(3) Long-Distance Dads: Restoring Incarcerated Fathers to Their Children.**

Authors: Turner, Randall; Peck, Jeff

Source: Corrections Today; Apr2002, Vol. 64 Issue 2, p72, 4p

Document Type: Article

Subject Terms: \*CHILDREN of prisoners

\*CORRECTIONS

\*PRISONERS

\*FAMILY relations

Abstract: Presents information on the Long Distance Dads (LDD) program which aims to restore incarcerated fathers to their children. Primary focus of the LDD program; Impact of father absence on the social development of a child; Principles of the LDD program; Benefits of the program for fathers who have been incarcerated.

Full Text Word Count: 2962

ISSN: 0190-2563

Accession Number: 6894493

Persistent link to this record:

<http://search.epnet.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=afh&an=6894493>

(4) Protecting the Ties that Bind from Behind Bars: A Call for Equal Opportunities for Incarcerated Fathers and Their Children to Maintain the Parent-Child Relationship.

Authors: Zealand, Elise

Source: Columbia Journal of Law & Social Problems; Winter98, Vol. 31

Issue 2, p247-281, 35p

Document Type: Article

Subject Terms: \*CHILDREN of prisoners

\*COMMUNITY-based corrections

\*FATHER & child

\*PARENTING

\*PRISONERS

\*FAMILY relations

Abstract: The article asserts that incarcerated fathers must have the same opportunities incarcerated mothers have to maintain the parent-child bond during the parent's incarceration. Incarcerated fathers who are either primary caretakers or partners in the care of their children prior to their incarceration, and those fathers who are planning to care for their children upon their release, should be afforded the same opportunities as incarcerated mothers to nurture the parent-child relationship. It examines bias against incarcerated fathers evident in theory and in practice, in the rhetoric of commentators who oppose gender-neutral sentencing. The courts, legislature and society may be hostile to the rights of prisoners and indifferent to the needs of their families. Despite this fact, there are some forward-looking correctional facilities and programs whose successes may prompt other facilities to follow suit. It concludes by giving fathers equal access to parenting and visitation programs and allowing non-violent offenders to live with their young children.

ISSN: 0010-1923

Accession Number: 1588691

Persistent link to this record:

<http://search.epnet.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=afh&an=1588691>

(5) Parental Training for Incarcerated Fathers: Effects on Attitudes, Self-Esteem, and Children's Self-Perceptions.

Authors: Harrison, Kiml

Source: Journal of Social Psychology; Oct97, Vol. 137 Issue 5, p588-593,

6p

Document Type: Article

Subject Terms: \*CHILD development

\*PARENTING -- Study & teaching

\*PRISONERS

\*SELF-perception

\*FAMILY relations

Geographic Terms: UNITED States

Abstract: The article examines the effects of parent education programs on the parenting attitudes and abilities of a number of male inmates in the United States and on the self-perceptions of their children. The University of Minnesota and a vocational/technical school in that state provided parent education for fathers incarcerated at the Hennepin County Adult Corrections Facility. Participants received instruction in child development, avoidance of child abuse, teaching child values, and coping with stress. Improved communication between father and child and better management of discipline problems were responses inmates voiced after participating in the program. Having a strong family relationship to return to has been highly associated with rehabilitation, successful release from prison, and lower recidivism rates. On the basis of this association, the present study is designed to survey the effects of inmates' participation in parent-education programs on their attitudes and self-esteem and to evaluate the potential contribution of incarcerated fathers to their children's upbringing. The study also examined the effects of such participation on the inmates' children's self-perceptions.

Author Affiliations: East Central University Ada, Oklahoma

Full Text Word Count: 2263

ISSN: 0022-4545

Accession Number: 9711110258

Persistent link to this record:

<http://search.epnet.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=afh&an=9711110258>

(6) Inmates benefit from family services programs.

Authors: Couturier, Lance C.  
Source: Corrections Today; Dec95, Vol. 57 Issue 7, p100, 6p, 1bw  
Document Type: Article  
Subject Terms: \*CHILDREN of prisoners  
\*FAMILY services  
\*PRISONERS  
\*FAMILY relations  
Geographic Terms: UNITED States  
NAICS/Industry Codes  
6241 Individual and Family Services  
Abstract: Reports on the benefits of establishing family services in prisons and jails to help inmates maintain contact with their families. Intrusion of family members into corrections facilities; Effects of fathers being incarcerated; Destruction to family unit of mothers' incarceration; Features of Pennsylvania Department of Corrections' family services program. INSET: Family services and mental health.  
Full Text Word Count: 2653  
ISSN: 0190-2563  
Accession Number: 9512130399

Persistent link to this record:

<http://search.epnet.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=afh&an=9512130399>

(7) **Strengthening inmate-family relationships: Programs that work.**

Authors: Adalist-Estrin, Ann  
Source: Corrections Today; Dec95, Vol. 57 Issue 7, p116, 2p, 3bw  
Document Type: Article  
Subject Terms: \*CHILDREN of prisoners  
\*FAMILY services  
\*PRISONERS  
\*FAMILY relations  
Geographic Terms: UNITED States  
NAICS/Industry Codes  
6241 Individual and Family Services  
Abstract: Stresses the need for family services programs designed to strengthen American prisoners' relationships with their families. Estimated number of children in the United States whose parents are in jail; Problems faced by children of prisoners; Characteristics of correctional family programs.  
Full Text Word Count: 904  
ISSN: 0190-2563  
Accession Number: 9512130404

Persistent link to this record:

<http://search.epnet.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=afh&an=9512130404>

(8) **A synergistic solution for children of incarcerated parents.**

Authors: Moses, Marilyn C.  
Source: Corrections Today; Dec95, Vol. 57 Issue 7, p124, 4p, 1 chart, 2bw  
Document Type: Article  
Subject Terms: \*PRISONERS  
\*CHILDREN of prisoners  
\*FAMILY relations

UNITED States. -- National Institute of Justice

Services for  
Geographic Terms: MARYLAND

UNITED States

Abstract: Evaluates the 'Girl Scouts Beyond Bars' program started by the National Institute of Justice in November

1992 at the Maryland Correctional Institution for Women, aimed at strengthening children's relationship with their incarcerated parents. Formation of similar programs in other correctional institutions; Program features; Limitations and challenges faced by program.

Full Text Word Count: 2060

ISSN: 0190-2563

Accession Number: 9512130410

Persistent link to this record:

<http://search.epnet.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=afh&an=9512130410>

(9) **FCN fosters family ties.**

Authors: Dallao, Mary

Source: Corrections Today; Dec95, Vol. 57 Issue 7, p168, 2p

Document Type: Article

Subject Terms: \*PRISONERS

\*FAMILY relations

Company/Entity: FAMILY & Corrections Network

People: MUSTIN, Jim

Abstract: Provides a backgrounder on the creation of the Family and Corrections Network (FCN) in 1983, aimed at fostering family ties between inmates and their families. Comments of FCN executive director and founder Jim Mustin; Network's holding of biennial conferences and board meetings.

Full Text Word Count: 907

ISSN: 0190-2563

Accession Number: 9512130434

Persistent link to this record:

<http://search.epnet.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=afh&an=9512130434>

(10) **Literacy intervention for incarcerated women.**

Authors: Martin, Sandra L. and Cotten, Niki U.

Source: Corrections Today; Dec95, Vol. 57 Issue 7, p120, 3p, 2bw

Document Type: Article

Subject Terms: \*CHILDREN of women prisoners

\*WOMEN prisoners

\*FAMILY relations

Geographic Terms: NORTH Carolina

UNITED States

Abstract: Reports on North Carolina Correctional Institution for Women's (NCCIW) introduction of the Motherhead Program aimed at fostering family ties between incarcerated women and their children. Features of program; Participants' learning of parenting skills; Evaluation of program.

Full Text Word Count: 1010

ISSN: 0190-2563

Accession Number: 9512130407

Persistent link to this record:

<http://search.epnet.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=afh&an=9512130407>

**ATTACHMENT 9.**

**PROPOSED BUDGET DETAIL AND EXPLANATION  
TO EXTEND SCR 128 TASK FORCE**

<b>A. Group Facilitator/Report Writer</b>			
Twelve monthly meetings, two hours per meeting 24 hours @ \$150/hour		\$ 3,600	
Preparing monthly meeting notes and Task Force Report 100 hours @ \$100/hour		10,000	
GET @ 4.167%		567	
<b>TOTAL FOR PURCHASE OF SERVICES</b>			<u>\$14,167</u>
<b>B. Consultant Services</b>			
Two days @ \$1,500/day		\$ 3,000	<u>\$ 3,000</u>
<b>C. Travel and Subsistence (Neighbor Island Representatives)</b>			
Airfare (4 trips @ \$186RT x 5 participants)		\$3,720	
Ground Transportation (4 trips x \$50)		200	
<b>TOTAL TRAVEL AND SUBSISTENCE</b>			<u>\$ 3,920</u>
<b>D Other Costs (Printing Final Report and postage)</b>			
100 reports @ \$5.00 each		\$ 500	
Postage		50	<u>\$ 550</u>
<b>PROJECT COST</b>			<b>\$21,637</b>

**BUDGET EXPLANATION:**

- A. Group Facilitator/Report Writer** - This amount reflects contracting a facilitator who will be responsible for providing notes of each meeting to each Task Force Member as well as writing the Final Report for distribution to the Task Force, Legislature and appropriate Agencies
- B. Consultant Services** - This amount reflects contracting with a local consultant for technical assistance that may be needed by the Task Force.
- C. Travel and Subsistence for Researcher & Neighbor Island Representatives** - This amount reflects bringing in Marilyn Brown, a Researcher from UH Hilo and a member of the Task Force as well as representatives from other Islands for 4 meetings during the year.
- D. Other Costs** - This amount reflects the printing and mailing of the Final Report of the Children of Incarcerated Parents SCR 128 Task Force .



