

# What services are available for youth with a parent transitioning out of prison?

## Problem Statement

Children with incarcerated parents have a higher likelihood of experiencing other adverse experiences when compared to peers that do not have an incarcerated parent.

## What the Research Says

- ❖ In 2007, there was an estimated **1,706,600** minor children with a parent in prison<sup>2</sup>
- ❖ Children with incarcerated parents have a higher likelihood of experiencing:
  - violence
  - substance abuse
  - lack of stability before, during, and after parental incarceration
  - stigma<sup>3</sup>

## Needs Statement

Children need age appropriate education to understand parental incarceration and family reunification in order to foster a positive relationship with their parent and increase current and future pro-social behaviors.



## Resources

- ❖ <sup>1</sup> Aaron, L. & Dallaire, D. H. (2010). Parental incarceration and multiple risk experiences: Effects on family dynamics and children's delinquency. *Journal of Youth Adolescence*, 39, 1471-1484.
- ❖ <sup>2</sup> Glaze, L.E., & Maruschak, L., M. (2008). Parents in prison and their minor children. Retrieved from <http://bjs.ojp.usdoj.gov/content/pub/pdf/pptmc.pdf>
- ❖ <sup>3</sup> Lopez, C., & Bhat, C.S. (2007). Supporting students with incarcerated parents in schools: a group intervention. *The Journal for Specialists in Group Work*, 32(2), 139-153.

The “effects of having an incarcerated parent do not cease when they are released”<sup>1</sup>, but many of the services available do...

## Intervention

**A 12 week group to provide children and youth age appropriate education and support during their parent's transition from prison**

*Mission: To provide a supportive, encouraging, and positive environment for children and youth during the transition of a parent releasing from prison, while fostering a positive parent child relationship and promoting current and future pro-social behaviors in children and youth.*



## Anticipated Outcomes

Outcome 1: Increased life skills

Indicator A: Thinks about consequences of decisions prior to making decisions

Indicator B: Able to manage expectations

Outcome 2: Improved relationship with parent

Indicator A: Is able to express feelings to parent in an appropriate manner

Indicator B: Is able to share experiences and/or ideas with parent

## Evaluation

- ❖ Pre and post survey
- ❖ Administered to youth and parent
- ❖ Measuring the parent child relationship and youth life skills



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