

OUR CHILDREN'S PLACE

Our Children's Place of Coastal Horizons is a statewide program committed to the children of incarcerated and returning parents.

- Strives to be the leading North Carolina advocate and educational resource focused on these children and the need for a statewide response to ensure their well-being.
- Works to create a community where children of incarcerated parents are recognized, supported, and encouraged to share their stories.

What You Can Do

Share

- Invite us to speak to your faith, community, civic or other group.
- Invite us to write a guest column for your organization's newsletter or blog.
- Share the Bill of Rights for Children of Incarcerated Parents (back) with your elected officials and community leaders.
- Join our mailing list at bit.ly/OCPList.
- Follow us on Facebook & Twitter.

bit.ly/FacebookOCP



bit.ly/TwitterOCP

Advocate

- Ask if professionals who work with children and families in your community have resources to support these children. If not, invite us to present a workshop.
- Use more inclusive language like mother, father, or parent instead of inmate, prisoner or convict.
- Ask faith leaders to consider a sermon on this topic, check your library to see if the collection includes books about children of incarcerated parents, encourage child care center staff to consider reading a book about a child with an incarcerated parent during story time.

Donate

- Suggest Our Children's Place to vour Giving Circle.
- Make a gift in honor or memory of a special person in your life.
- Support Parent Day by donating money, food or craft item.

Volunteer

- Ask us about Sesame Street. H.A.T.S., Parent Day, and Parenting Inside Out!
- Find new opportunities for H.A.T.S. (see right) or staff our table.

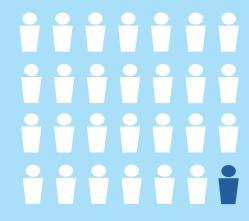
Learn more

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1 in every 28 children in the United States has an incarcerated parent.



In NC, almost 17,000 children currently have a parent in prison.

What We Do

Educate professionals, especially those working with children, about the impacts of parental incarceration and reentry. Last year we educated almost 1,200 professionals!

Support the relationship between children and their incarcerated parents by hosting Parent Days at prison and jail facilities.

Identify and promote policies, programs, and practices which improve the outcomes for these children.

Coordinate H.A.T.S. (Handcrafted And Totally Special), an important part of our community outreach and education work. Generous community members donate yarn; talented women at the North Carolina Correctional Institution for Women (NCCIW) knit hats and other items; and shoppers donate in exchange for these handcrafted goods. We have an ongoing partnership with Mothers and Their Children (MATCH).

Bill of Rights for Children of Incarcerated Parents

San Francisco Children of Incarcerated Parents Partnership http://www.sfcipp.org/index.html

- 1.I have the right TO BE KEPT SAFE AND INFORMED AT THE TIME OF MY PARENT'S ARREST.
- 2.I have the right **TO BE HEARD WHEN DECISIONS ARE MADE ABOUT ME.**
- 3.I have the right **TO BE CONSIDERED WHEN DECISIONS ARE MADE ABOUT MY PARENT.**
- 4.I have the right **TO BE WELL CARED FOR IN MY PARENT'S ABSENCE**.
- 5.I have the right **TO SPEAK WITH, SEE, AND TOUCH MY PARENT.**
- 6.I have the right **TO SUPPORT AS I FACE MY PARENT'S INCARCERATION**.
- 7.I have the right **NOT TO BE JUDGED, BLAMED OR LABELED** because my parent is incarcerated.
- 8.I have the right **TO A LIFELONG RELATIONSHIP WITH MY PARENT.**

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