



## Family-Based Justice Center

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### Greetings from the Family-Based Justice Center!

There are a growing number of programming options for justice-involved parents, at least in some parts of the United States. But the diversity of programs and the ways in which they are administered makes it difficult to compare them and assess which programs are best for which people. We are not aware of any rigorous studies of parenting programs that show generally improved outcomes; as with most justice-system interventions, it appears that some parenting programs work some of the time to improve outcomes for some families. With this in mind, some resources on parenting programs are highlighted below—more research on parenting programs would be welcomed. If you know of any promising new parenting programs, please let us know.

We have updated the appearance of the FBJC newsletter; thank you for your suggestions, and please let us know of recommendations for resources that address parenting, children, or family topics in criminal justice.

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#### **Resources:**

**Some links to information about parenting programs for justice-involved parents:**

[7 Helpful Programs for Children of Incarcerated Parents](#)  
[Supporting Families and Children of Incarcerated Fathers](#)

## **In the News:**

### **Healthy Start Act**

The most-recent report on Minnesota's Healthy Start Act is now available. The Healthy Start Act created the country's first policy to release pregnant women and new mothers with shorter sentences. Since January 2022, 12 women have returned to their communities to raise their babies. Read the report [here](#).

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## **Read the Study:**

The Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) report, "Data on Maternal Health and Pregnancy Outcomes from Prisons: Results from a Feasibility Study," examines the availability and quality of data, the respondent burden, and the challenges of collecting data on the health and healthcare of pregnant women in custody at the federal, state, local, and tribal levels. BJS will use the findings of this study to help determine the best strategies for implementing national data collections in correctional settings. Read the report [here](#).

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## **Recommended:**

On a special visiting day at the Washington State DOC Washington Corrections Center, incarcerated men were able to exchange their prison wear for street clothes. This seemingly small change made a big difference. One participant writes, "What I saw in that mirror blew me away. I didn't look like a prisoner anymore. For the first time in about 15 years, I was able to see the man I really am." Read his story [here](#).

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## **Day Brightener:**



We thank you for staying up-to-date with the Family-Based Justice Center. Don't forget to forward this newsletter to your contacts.

Learn more about the Family-Based Justice Center at our website [familybasedjusticecenter.org](http://familybasedjusticecenter.org)

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