



CHILDREN OF INCARCERATED PARENTS' BILL OF RIGHTS

- To be protected from additional trauma at the time of parental arrest.
- To be informed of the arrest in an age-appropriate manner.
- To be heard and respected by decision makers when decisions are made about the child.
- To be considered when decisions are made about the child's parent.
- To be cared for in the absence of the child's parent in a way that prioritizes the child's physical, mental, and emotional needs.
- To speak with, see, and touch their incarcerated parent.
- To be informed about local services and programs that can provide support to the child as the child deals with the parent's incarceration.
- To not be judged, labeled, or blamed for the parent's incarceration.
- To have a lifelong relationship with the incarcerated parent.

Incarcerated Parent Statistics and Resources

- **Over 2.7 million children in the U.S. have a parent who is incarcerated.** Half of them are under ten years of age. ["Children and Families of the Incarcerated Fact Sheet." Rutgers University | Camden, National Research Center on Children and Families of the Incarcerated, 2014, nrccfi.camden.rutgers.edu/files/nrccfi-fact-sheet-2014.pdf]
- **Almost 70,000 children in Oregon have at least one parent behind bars.** The rates are higher in African-American families and families that are lower in socioeconomic status. ["Children With Incarcerated Parents Get Bill of Rights in Oregon." PrisonEducation.com, 20 Oct. 2017, www.prisoneducation.com/prison-education-news/children-with-incarcerated-parents-get-billof-rights-in-oregon/]
- **Incarcerated parents in Oregon must be treated the same as any other parent** according to the Oregon Administrative Rules, case law, and DHS internal procedures. DHS must make the exact same reasonable efforts as to all parents, including incarcerated parents, regardless of how long the parent's sentence is or whether DHS believes reunification is likely or even possible. Failure to do so leaves the court with no authority to change the permanency plan from reunification to anything else, thereby delaying permanency for children. [*In Re M.H.*, 283 Or App 313 (2017).]
- **The number of women in prisons nationally rose over 700% between 1980 and 2014. 60% have at least one child under age 18.** ["Fact Sheet: Incarcerated Women and Girls." Sentencingproject.org, The Sentencing Project, Nov. 2015, www.sentencingproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/Incarcerated-Women-and-Girls.pdf]
- **Many of these women are primary caregivers, and resultantly lose their children forever.** ["About Women In Prison (Most Are Primary Caregivers, Many Lose Their Children Forever)." INVISIBLE CHILDREN, www.invisiblechildren.org/2014/08/05/about-women-in-prisonmost-are-primary-caregivers-many-lose-their-children-forever/]
- **Over 40% of the population in federal prison is a minimum of 500 miles from home.** 61% of those in state prisons are a minimum of 100 miles from home. This distance can make regular family visitations extremely challenging. [Sparks, Sarah D. "Parents' Incarceration Takes Toll on Children, Studies Say." Education Week, Editorial Project in Education, 20 June 2018, www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2015/02/25/parentsincarceration-takes-toll-on-children-studies.html]
- **What is it like being a father behind bars?** [<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6rzTwFE-L1I>]
- **What is it like to raise a family while you are incarcerated?** YWCA has a Family Preservation Project to strengthen families with an incarcerated member. [<https://www.ywcapdx.org/what-we-do/family-preservation-project/> See also: Santos, Melissa. "'I Really Want Him to Have a Different Life.' How Some Female Inmates Are Raising Babies behind Bars." The News Tribune, Apr. 2017, www.thenewstribune.com/news/politicsgovernment/article140712783.html]
- **What is it like for children to visit their incarcerated parent?** ["Parent-Child Visiting Practices in Prisons and Jails ." Urban.org, Urban Institute, www.urban.org/sites/default/files/publication/89601/parent-child_visiting_practices_in_prisons_and_jails.pdf]

Children with Incarcerated Parents

“Every Day Counts” Conference

By: Kelly Rath

May 17, 2019



What We Believe to be True

- Visitation directly correlates with success upon reentry.
- Children generally benefit from seeing their parents.
- There are upsides to working with incarcerated parents.

Child Welfare Concurrs

- Contact must be beneficial
- Trauma must be supported
- Contact with parents assists in case planning
- Contact is part of DHS Practice Model and should be prioritized

Rights of Children of Incarcerated Parents

Children of incarcerated parents have a right to speak with, see, and touch their parent when it is appropriate and safe.

*Children of Incarcerated
Parents Bill of Rights*

Implemented in Oregon under
SB 241 2017 Legislative Session



Child Welfare & the Rights of Children

Children have the right to have safe and consistent contact with their parent regardless of that parent's location.

From Policy

Maintaining family contact and regular visitation is the single most important factor in supporting a child's attachments to his or her parents, siblings and other family members and can lessen both the child's and the parents' anxiety about the child being placed in substitute care.

What Does Research Say?

Parent-child visitation is one of the most important elements to ensure the well-being of children when their parent is incarcerated.



(Child Protection Best Practices Bulletin)

Incarcerated Parents:

A New Perspective



Despite challenges of incarceration, parents in custody are generally:

- Motivated to change.
- Practicing sobriety.
- Receiving care for mental and physical illness.
- Held accountable for prosocial behavior.
- Have stability of housing, food, and employment.

How Do We Connect Incarcerated Parents and Their Children?

- Technology
 - Visiting at Prison
 - Programming

Technology

- Video Interactive Phone Calls
- Instant Messaging
- Email
- Phone Calls
- Tablets



Technology: Telmate and Access



Visitation – Types of Visits

- Traditional
- Event
- Enhanced



Visitation Rule: OAR 291-127

Standard Across Facilities

- Visitor eligibility requirements
- Visitor application process
- Point-based limits on # visits allowed per month
- Visitor security screening before entry
- Child-friendly environment
- Allowed physical contact
 - Brief kiss at beginning and end of visit
 - Hand holding
 - Holding children ≤ 8 years
- Dress Code
- Restrictions on exchange of objects
- Responsibility for children supervision
- No firearms, explosives, alcohol, drugs, etc.
- Must consume or dispose vending machine items during visit
- Limit on amount of change/tokens in visitor's possession
- No loitering

Things That May Differ Between Facilities

- Visiting hours, length of visits, and place of visits (posted at each institution)
- Number of visiting days/week and which days
- Schedule visits in advance for AICs in special housing
- The number and types of enhanced visits available at each institution

Professional or Therapeutic Visits

OAR 291-127-0280(3)

Professional and Therapeutic/Programming Visits

- Visitation for nonsocial purposes by attorneys; criminal justice agency representatives; state, local or other public or government agencies; or for therapeutic or programming purposes
- Approved in advance by facility superintendent (usually during regular visiting hours)
- Must present credentials/identification at visiting desk.
- Zero (0) visiting point deduction

Professional or Therapeutic Visits

HKH2

OAR 291-127-0280(3)

Professional and Therapeutic/Programming Visits

- With prior approval, certain articles may be brought into the visiting area by attorneys and representatives from other criminal justice and government agencies.
- All articles will be searched for contraband.

What	Approval Required
Necessary documents or paperwork for exchange with the person in custody	Visiting Staff
Computers, tape recorders, and other electronic devices.	Superintendent

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HKH2 Want to call out the specific section of the rule that addresses professional visits so they know how a DHS worker schedules a visit at the institution

Hodney Kelly H, 6/21/2018

Scheduling Legal/Professional Calls

- Schedule in advance.
- Legal Calls - Call the facility main line for the scheduling point of contact.
- DHS Worker Staff Calls:
 - **Men** – Correctional Counselor
 - **Women** – Comprehensive Counselor +
 - Minimum Facility - Family Preservation Project assistance
 - Medium Facility – Family Advocate assistance

Scheduling Professional Calls and Visits

The screenshot shows the Oregon Department of Corrections website. The navigation menu includes Home, Contact, About Us, Visiting, and Careers. The main heading is 'Visiting: Guidelines and restrictions for visiting an inmate'. Below this, the breadcrumb trail shows 'Visiting > Professional Visits'. The 'Professional Visits' section is highlighted with a red circle. The page content includes a 'Professional Visit and Communication Guide' and a 'Professional Visiting' section with a list of requirements for visitors.

Professional Visits

VISITING

- Become a Visitor
- Visiting Guidelines
- Arriving at the Facility
- Visiting Hours
- Visiting Alerts

Professional Visit and Communication Guide

This information is intended as a reference and does not cover every aspect of the visiting and communication rules. To be completely familiar with Department of Corrections' rules, review the rules in their entirety using the links provided on this page.

Professional Visiting

Professional visits (i.e., attorney, state and/or local agencies, other public or government agencies, psychological evaluations, etc.) with inmates must be scheduled in advance by contacting the facility's Superintendent Office. When scheduling an appointment, please provide the following:

- Inmate's name and SID number
- Provide the names of all persons attending the visit (i.e., attorney, investigator, law clerk, etc.) All visitors will require a background check as noted below.

Enhanced Visiting Opportunities:
Coffee Creek TACE



Enhanced Visiting Opportunities:
SCI Weekly Family Visits



Enhanced Visiting Opportunities:
PRCF Summer Barbeque



Enhanced Visiting Opportunities:
SRCI Kids Camp



Becoming a Visitor

Visiting
Guidelines and restrictions for visiting an inmate

Visiting

VISITING

- [Become a Visitor](#)
- [Visiting Guidelines](#)
- [Arriving at the Facility](#)
- [Visiting Hours](#)
- [Visiting Alerts](#)

Introduction

This section covers general guidelines for **regular visiting**. If visiting an inmate in special housing, there are additional restrictions and prior scheduling is required. **Contact your facility for assistance.**

For more information on visiting, please see the [Friends & Family Handbook](#) or the [Visiting Rule](#). For information on professional visits, see the [Professional Visit and Communication Guide](#).

Visiting Checklist

Below is a quick checklist of what to bring and what not bring for your visit. For more details, see our [Visiting Guidelines](#).

IMPORTANT: Avoid wearing ANY blue clothing to your visit. Inmates in Oregon Department of Corrections facilities wear blue, so for security reasons, visitors will not be allowed into the facility if they are wearing blue and/or denim clothing.

What to Bring for Your Visit

- Identification
- Appropriate clothing
- Quarters
- Emergency medications
- Photos to share
- Approved items for your infant (if applicable)
- Metal Detector Medical Exception Form (if applicable)

What to Leave at Home or in a Facility Locker

- Non-emergency medications, prescribed or non-prescribed, are not allowed in the visiting room.

DOC Visiting
<https://www.oregon.gov/doc/visiting/Pages/home.aspx>

Oregon Offender Search

Oregon Offender Search

Friends & Family

- [Contact an Inmate](#)
- [Visit an Inmate](#)
- [Send Money to an Inmate](#)
- [Family Connections](#)
- [Inmate Lockers](#)

Facilities & Programs

- [Prison Locations](#)
- [Inmate Programs](#)
- [Inmate Services](#)
- [Honor and Assessment](#)
- [PREA Information](#)

Community

- [Victim Services](#)
- [Community Corrections](#)
- [Business Contracts](#)
- [Rules and Policies](#)
- [Media, Research, and Records](#)

Join Our Team

- [Careers at DOC](#)
- [How to Apply](#)
- [Become a Correctional Officer](#)
- [Work for Health Services](#)
- [Volunteer](#)

Type in either the completed name of the person for whom you would like to search, or enter partial names, leaving other name fields empty. Partial name searches are possible using an asterisk (*) for unknown portions of names.

ie: Johns* to match 'Johnson' and 'Johnsen'
 St*on to match 'Stenson', 'Stocton', and 'Stevenson'

First: Middle: Last:
 SID Number:

DOC website/Oregon Offender Search or <http://docpub.state.or.us/OOS/intro.jsf>

Enhanced Visiting Information - DOC Social Media

The screenshot shows the Oregon Department of Corrections (DOC) website and its social media profile. The website header includes navigation links: Home, Contact, About Us, Visiting, and Careers. Below the header is a banner image of a building with the text "Department of Corrections" and "Welcome to the Oregon Department of Corrections". To the left of the main content is a sidebar with "Links" and "Social Media" sections. The "Social Media" section contains icons for Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and a Blog. The main content area displays a Twitter feed for @ORCorrections, featuring a tweet about the Coffey Creek Correctional Facility and the Willamette National Forest. The tweet includes a photo of the facility and text stating: "Oregon DOC's mission is to promote public safety by holding offenders accountable for their actions and reducing the risk of future criminal behavior." The tweet is dated "Retweeted July 2018" and has 1,951 retweets and 223 replies. The Twitter profile also shows 1,649 followers and 1,078 likes.

Programming: Intake Assessment

- Adults in custody receive two assessment scores (risk and criminogenic needs) that help determine their custody level and correctional case plan.
- Programming and resources are made available in accordance with a person's risk levels—low, medium, or high.



HKH3

Programming: The Role of Counselors

- Counselors as change agents
- First point of contact except for non-DHS legal and professional calls/contacts.
- Caseloads and programming availability based on risk and criminogenic level of need.



Programming: Parenting Inside Out (PIO)

A program of the Pathfinders Network, PIO focuses on:

- Healthy adult relationships,
- Co-parenting,
- Problem solving,
- Non-violent discipline,
- Positive reinforcement, and
- Monitoring



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HKH3 This may need to be updated based on the new CCM direction?
Hodney Kelly H, 6/21/2018

Additional Programs

- Family First - OSCI/OSP
- Families Aiding In Rehabilitation - TRCI
- Family Preservation Project –CCCF
- Pregnancy and Post-Partum Support
- Dads For Life Camp - SRCI
- Others



Other Programming Options:

- Education;
- Residential treatment (last 6 months);
- Religious Services;
- Reentry Curricula & Pre-Release Contact;
- Mental, Physical, and Chronic Disease Health Care;
- Case-Management;
- Work;
- Incentive Activities

RKA1

Family Advocate for Mothers

- Family Advocacy Services for DHS-Involved AICs
 - Participation in hearings
 - Facilitated calls to caseworker, attorney, child therapist, Citizen Review Board
- Family Engagement Services
 - Researching contact orders
 - Resolving communication and visitation barriers
- Family Support Services
 - Participation in caregiver planning
 - Family Resources
 - Arrange video visits for DHS



Julie Collinson

Coffee Creek Correctional Facility
503-570-6658

Julie.L.Collinson@doc.state.or.us

Programs for Specific Inmates

Talk to the Adult in Custody and the Correctional Counselor for more detailed information on what opportunities are available at each location.



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RKA1 Get new name/contact info
Raths Kelly A, 6/14/2018

Contact Information:



Kelly Raths, Administrator
Policy and Business Services

Phone: (503) 945-9023
Kelly.A.Raths@doc.state.or.us

Resources for Children with an Incarcerated Parent:

Family Preservation Project: promote individual and system level change to reduce the collateral consequences of parental incarceration on children, families, and the community. <https://www.ywcapdx.org/what-we-do/family-preservation-project/> Tel. (503) 294-7400

Girl Scouts Beyond Bars: Mission: to lighten the impact of parent-child separation. They serve girls who have a mother or grandmother incarcerated at Coffee Creek Correctional Facility by providing a safe space to talk about their experiences with other girls in a similar situation. <http://www.girlscoutsofsw.org/en/about-girl-scouts/our-program/ways-to-participate/gsbb.html>
Tel. (503) 977-6851

NW Family Services Program for Children of Incarcerated Parents: Mission: to empower children through mentoring, providing resources and building community relationships. <https://www.nwfs.org/community-engagement/parenting-inside-out> Tel. (503) 546-6377

Oregon CURE: Offer monthly meetings for adult family members or friends of incarcerated people. <https://oregoncure.org/support-groups/>
Tel. (503)409-3329

Clackamas County Children of Incarcerated Parents Fund (CCCIP): Provide mentoring to children with an incarcerated parent, extensive parent education courses to prepare for reunification, toolkits for families effected by incarceration, and community education. <http://ccpobf.org/clackamas-county-children-of-incarcerated-parents-fund-cccip/>
Tel. (503) 421-7122

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- 1 Santos, Melissa. "I Really Want Him to Have a Different Life! How Some Female Inmates Are Raising Babies behind Bars." *The News Tribune*, Apr. 2017, www.thenewstribune.com/news/politics-government/article140712783.html.
- 2 "TX PRISON ISSUES/WOMEN IN PRISON." *Brokenchains.us, TX Prisoners Network Support*, brokenchains.us/tdcj/prison-issues/women.html.
- 3 "Children and Families of the Incarcerated Fact Sheet." Rutgers University | Camden, National Research Center on Children and Families of the Incarcerated, 2014, nrcfci.camden.rutgers.edu/files/nrcfci-fact-sheet-2014.pdf.
- 4 "Children With Incarcerated Parents Get Bill of Rights in Oregon." *PrisonEducation.com*, 20 Oct. 2017, prisoneducation.com/prison-education-news/children-with-incarcerated-parents-get-bill-of-rights-in-oregon/.
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- 6 "Hidden Consequences: The Impact of Incarceration on Dependent Children." *National Institute of Justice, NIJ*, Mar. 2017, nij.gov/journals/278/Pages/impact-of-incarceration-on-dependent-children.aspx.
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- 8 "2017 ORS 423.160' Bill of Rights of Children of Incarcerated Parents." *OregonLaws.org, Oregon Laws*, 2017, www.oregonlaws.org/ors/423.160.
- 9 "About Women In Prison (Most Are Primary Caregivers, Many Lose Their Children Forever)." *INVISIBLE CHILDREN*, www.invisiblechildren.org/2014/08/05/about-women-in-prison-most-are-primary-caregivers-many-lose-their-children-forever/.
- 10 "Children of Incarcerated Parents Brochure ." *SF Online Barnard College , San Francisco Children of Incarcerated Parents Partnership*, sfoonline.barnard.edu/children/SFCIPP_Bill_of_Rights.pdf.
- 11 "Parent-Child Visiting Practices in Prisons and Jails ." *Urban.org, Urban Institute* , www.urban.org/sites/default/files/publication/89601/parent-child_visiting_practices_in_prisons_and_jails.pdf.
- 12 "The Effectiveness of Parent Education for Incarcerated Parents: An Evaluation for Parenting in Prison." *Research Gate, Correctional Education Association* , 2010, www.researchgate.net/publication/260099407_The_Effectiveness_of_Parent_Education_for_Incarcerated_Parents_An_Evaluation_of_Parenting_from_Prison.



[1]

Implementing the Bill of Rights of Children of Incarcerated Parents in



Written by:
Alexis Guzman
Amber Dorich
Bre McCormick

Statistics You Should Know

- Over **2.7 million children in the U.S.** have a parent who is incarcerated. Half of who are **under ten years of age**. [3]
- In Oregon, almost **70,000 children have at least one parent behind bars**. The rates are higher in families that identify as African-American or families that are lower in socioeconomic status. [4]
- Between the year 1980 and 2014, the **number of women in prisons nationally rose over 700%**. Of the women in prison, 60% have at least one child under 18 years old. [5]
- Children with a parent that is incarcerated are much more likely to experience trauma, anger, depression, anxiety, poor academic performance, social issues, low socioeconomic status, and have a higher chance of involvement in crime. [6]
- In Federal prisons, more than 40% of the population is a **minimum of 500 miles from home**. 61% of those in **state prisons** are a **minimum of 100 miles from home**. This distance can make regular visitations extremely challenging. [7]

2017 ORS 423.160 The Bill of Rights of

Children of Incarcerated Parents:

- A.) To be protected from additional trauma at the time of parental arrest.
- B.) To be informed of the arrest in an age-appropriate manner.
- C.) To be heard and respected by decision makers when decisions are made about the child.
- D.) To be considered when decisions are made about the child's parent.
- E.) To be cared for in the absence of the child's parent in a way that prioritizes the child's physical, mental, and emotional needs.
- F.) To speak with, see, and touch the incarcerated parent.
- G.) To be informed about local services and programs that can provide support to the child as the child deals with the parent's incarceration.
- H.) To not be judged, labeled or blamed for the parent's incarceration.
- I.) To have a lifelong relationship with the incarcerated parent.

Statistics You Should Know

- The rate of incarcerated females is growing more rapidly than males. In most cases, mothers who are incarcerated are the **primary caregiver for their children compared to the number of fathers** in prison considered the primary caregiver [9].
- Incarcerated parents who have regular visits with their children are **six times less likely** to reenter prison than those with no visitations at all [10].
- Spending time with the incarcerated parent at regular visitations, **can improve the child's feelings** of abandonment or anxiety caused by the incarceration. It can also improve their emotional adjustment, self-esteem, behavior at school, and help them feel more attached to the parent [11].
- Incarcerated individuals involved in parenting education classes have shown positive outcomes. These programs teach parenting skills, communication skills, and child development processes. This **benefits both the parent and child** upon the parent's release. The parents who participated in these classes showed much lower levels of recidivism rates than those who did not participate in classes [12].

