

*Indicates recommendation already implemented or in process

Children and Families of Incarcerated Parents Policy and Service Review

Administration or Office: DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

Identified Service Need	Current Policies and Services to Address Need	Current Barriers or Gaps	Initial recommendations to meet need
<p>1. Programs and policies assist offenders in maintaining familial contact and engagement between themselves and their children</p>	<p>200.200 - Offender Betterment Fund 300.380 - Classification and Plan Review 310.150 - Reception, Initial Classification and Facility Plan 320.480 – Community Justice Centers 450.300 - Visits for Offenders (Prisons) 450.310 - Visits and Social Outings for Work Release Offenders 450.320 – Contact, Visitation and Unification/Reunification with Minors 590.100 - Extended Family Visiting 530.150 - Offender Family Support 560.200 – Religious Programs 590.320 – Residential Parenting Program</p> <p>Multiple programs, events and activities available in Prison, Work Release and Community that involve families and offenders simultaneously.</p>	<p>Internal (within administration):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visit rules variable per location • Visit rules not informed by child development disciplines • Offender housed at extended distance from family • Staff resource to support program or activity • Physical space resource limitations • Definition of family sometimes inhibiting • Funding resources limited • Service resource limitations • Phone calls sometimes problematic • Limited age activities for children available in some visit rooms • Judgment and sentence and nature of crime 	<p>Policy updated to establish consistency and facilitate gaps; pending final review.</p> <p>Policy informed by Child Development needs.</p> <p>Policy and Procedure considers proximity to family (resource and procedure still allows variance here.)</p> <p>Request/Direct resources to facilitate timeliness of visitor processing</p> <p>Establish/expand visit rooms and program space where resource allows</p> <p>Definition of family under review</p>

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<p>1. Programs and policies assist offenders in maintaining familial contact and engagement between themselves and their children, <i>cont.</i></p>	<p><i>cont.</i></p>	<p>sometimes prohibits contact</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Travel Expense <p>External (between administrations, or DOC and other agencies, or with state or federal laws and/or tribal code, etc.):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protocols lacking to assist in fluid communication with DSHS caseworkers to facilitate visiting • Cost of transportation • Family has limited financial resources 	<p>Review phone contracts</p> <p>Direct resource to provide age appropriate activities for children and parents.</p> <p>Establish mechanisms for out of country calling</p> <p>Continue development and education of staff to facilitate assistance to DSHS caseworkers</p> <p>External funding request to support non-profits providing transportation.</p> <p>Work in Cooperation with Department of Early Learning who will provide technical assistance in the development and maintenance of child-friendly visitation settings, practices and policies.</p>

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<p>2. Programs are adequate and available that target offenders who have children.</p> <p>2. Programs are adequate and available that target offenders who have children, <i>cont.</i></p>	<p>530.150 - Offender Family Support 320.480 – Community Justice Centers 590.320 – Residential Parenting Program</p> <p>Program expansion and review continual</p> <p><i>cont.</i></p>	<p>Internal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited Resource • Limited Evidence Based Family Centered Programs in Prisons • F.C. Program development in Community Justice Centers new • Community Family Services Support Staff resource new <p>External:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited Evidence Based Family Centered Programs in Prisons 	<p>Programming expansion underway in Community Justice Centers, Prisons and Work Release.</p> <p>Data gathering occurring to assist in program evaluation and assessment.</p> <p>Evaluate programs based on needs assessment of family unit</p> <p>Assess family unit needs vs. just completing offender needs assessment</p>
<p>3. Policy encourages familial contact and engagement between inmates and their children with the goal of reducing recidivism.</p>	<p>530.150 - Offender Family Support</p> <p>Urban Institute, Recidivism and Family Support, 2004; LaVigne, Visher and Castro</p>	<p>Internal: See item #1, in addition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No current means to measure program effectiveness. • No validation tool currently available <p>External:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited studies available to confirm FC program effects on recidivism • 	<p>Continue to expand programs to support identifiable family needs; i.e. gang intervention, drug and alcohol education and awareness for families, expansion of family involvement in Therapeutic Communities.</p>

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4. Policy encourages familial contact and engagement between inmates and their children with the goal of reducing intergenerational incarceration.	530.150 - Offender Family Support	Internal: See item #1 External: •	Continue to expand programs to support identifiable family needs; i.e. gang intervention, drug and alcohol education and awareness for families, expansion of family involvement in Therapeutic Communities.
5. Programs and policies take into consideration the children's need to maintain contact with his or her parent.	530.150 - Offender Family Support 320.480 – Community Justice Centers 450.320 – Contact, Visitation and Unification/Reunification with Minors 590.320 – Residential Parenting Program	Internal: • Correctional culture • Child safety concerns • Variance of crimes represented within Visit and non-Visit programs • Limited staffing resource to facilitate • Limited physical space External: • Family burn out or conflict • Caregiver ability or non-ability to transport • Child's interest	Engage subject matter experts to inform policy and practice. Establish effective facility liaisons for DSHS caseworkers. Modify responses to family with the intention to provide support and accommodation as safety and security allow.
6. Programs and policies are conducive to facilitating visitation when appropriate.	450.300 - Visits for Offenders (Prisons) 450.310 - Visits and Social Outings for Work Release Offenders 590.100 - Extended Family Visiting	Internal: See item #5 External:	Extensive policy revisions in process to standardize and facilitate visitation

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<p>7. Programs and policies assist in reunification when appropriate</p>	<p>530.150 - Offender Family Support 320.480 – Community Justice Centers 450.300 - Visits for Offenders (Prisons) 450.310 - Visits and Social Outings for Work Release Offenders 590.100 - Extended Family Visiting 530.150 - Offender Family Support 560.200 – Religious Programs</p>	<p>Internal: See item #1</p> <p>External:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<p>Extensive policy revisions in process to standardize and facilitate family centered programs and services</p>
<p>8. Programs and policies encourage the development of and assist offenders in improving parenting skills.</p>	<p>320.480 – Community Justice Centers 500.000 – Education and Vocational Programs for Offenders 530.150 - Offender Family Support 590.320 – Residential Parenting Program 590.350 – Offender Change Programs</p>	<p>Internal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited resources • Literacy/educational level of offenders • Accessibility to programs per location • Practical application of skill set when children not in regular contact • Lack of gender specific programming for women <p>External:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family perception and expectation of offender • Cost of contact (phone calls, travel) • Lack of interest • Social stressors and increased risk factors • Lack of gender specific, programming for women 	<p>Expansion of Partners in Parenting</p> <p>Parenting classes established at Prisons</p> <p>Adapt gender specific programming where appropriate.</p> <p>Provide classes requiring variable levels of education.</p> <p>Expand classes to all Work Release and Community Justice Centers.</p> <p>Expand parenting programming in</p>

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<p>9. Gather information and data on the families of inmates.</p> <p>9. Gather information and data on the families of inmates, <i>cont.</i></p>	<p>320.480 – Community Justice Centers 530.150 - Offender Family Support 590.300 – Resource Program Management</p> <p>Information concerning program participation is being manually gathered at Prisons, Community Justice Centers and Field Offices.</p> <p><i>Cont.</i></p>	<p>Internal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Data gathering manual and in preliminary stage No efficient means of measuring, reporting or gathering data on family members Work site resources limit data collection <p>External:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information specific to Washington lacking or in preliminary stages 	<p>Prisons to include family.</p> <p>Offender Management and Network Information system allows for needs assessment at Intake that includes gathering data concerning family.</p> <p>Further develop OMNI to gather information concerning location and DOB of children</p> <p>Create relevant reports utilizing OMNI data and InfoPort data.</p> <p>Continue to improve reporting of program participation through the Resource Program Management system.</p> <p>Continue development of data share and development agreements with DSHS and OSPI – refer to Data Sub-committee for more information.</p>

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<p>10. Gather information and data on the children of incarcerated parents</p> <p>10. Gather information and data on the children of incarcerated parents, <i>cont.</i></p>	<p>530.150 - Offender Family Support</p> <p>Information concerning program participation is being manually gathered at Prisons, Community Justice Centers and Field Offices.</p> <p><i>Cont.</i></p>	<p>Internal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Data gathering manual and in preliminary stage No efficient means of measuring, reporting or gathering data on family members Work site resources limit data collection <p>External:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information specific to Washington lacking or in preliminary stages 	<p>Offender Management and Network Information system allows for needs assessment at Intake that includes gathering data concerning children.</p> <p>Further develop OMNI to gather information concerning location and DOB of children</p> <p>Create relevant reports utilizing OMNI data and InfoPort data.</p> <p>Continue to improve reporting of program participation through the Resource Program Management system. Continue development of data share and development agreements with DSHS and OSPI – refer to Data Sub-committee for more information.</p>
<p>11. Evaluate data to determine the impact of programs on recidivism</p>		<p>Internal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No data analyst in place 	<p>Hire for funded research analyst.</p>

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<p>11. Evaluate data to determine the impact of programs on recidivism, <i>cont.</i></p>		<p>at this time to evaluate program effectiveness.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No validation tool currently available <p>External:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited studies available to confirm FC program effects on recidivism • 	<p>Utilize and build on data from DSHS/OSPI and DOC data collaboration agreements.</p> <p>Establish protocol for program effectiveness evaluation based on data.</p> <p>Identify best and promising practices once results are compiled. Publish findings nationally.</p>
<p>12. Evaluate data to determine the impact of programs on intergenerational incarceration</p>		<p>Internal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No data analyst in place at this time to evaluate program effectiveness and impact. • No validation tool currently available <p>External:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited studies available to confirm FC program effects on intergenerational incarceration • 	<p>Hire for funded research analyst.</p> <p>Utilize and build on data from DSHS/OSPI and DOC data collaboration agreements.</p> <p>Establish protocol for program effectiveness evaluation based on data.</p> <p>Identify best and promising practices once results are</p>

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			compiled. Publish findings nationally.
13. Programs and policies take into consideration the inmate's ability to develop plans to financially support their children	320.480 – Community Justice Centers 500.000 – Education and Vocational Programs for Offenders 500.100 – Correspondence Education for Offenders 590.350 – Offender Change Programs 700.000 – Work Programs for Offenders 710.400 – Correctional Industries	Internal: See item #15 External:	See item #15. Additional: standardize expectation of child support information delivery at Orientation
14. Services that assist incarcerated parents in meeting child support obligations	320.480 – Community Justice Centers 700.000 – Work Programs for Offenders 710.400 – Correctional Industries Currently show Child Support Reduction Video and provide paperwork and contact information at reception. Some community sites are providing volunteer staff support to assist offenders with completion of paperwork. Educational and vocational programs increase earning capacity at release.	Internal: See item #15 External:	See item #15. Additional: standardize expectation of child support information delivery at Orientation
15. Assistance for incarcerated and previously incarcerated parents in managing or reducing child support debt	320.480 – Community Justice Centers 700.000 – Work Programs for Offenders Currently show Child Support Reduction Video and provide paperwork and contact information at reception. Some community sites are providing volunteer staff support to assist offenders with completion of paperwork.	Internal: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Inconsistency in Child Support Enforcement Information Delivery• Not resourced to provide detailed and consistent program support or education.	Broaden distribution of Child Support video and information dissemination. Resource paid or volunteer staff support to provide

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		<p>External:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Child Support Paperwork is extensive, not suited to “English as a Second Language” audience and intimidating to many offenders. 	<p>implementation assistance and/or allow for consistent communication with ESD/OES staff</p> <p>Deduct Child Support from Offender pay for offenders working in CI or Class IV jobs.</p>
<p>16. Services for parents while incarcerated: educational and vocational</p>	<p>500.000 – Education and Vocational Programs for Offenders 500.100 – Correspondence Education for Offenders 530.150 - Offender Family Support 590.100 – Extended Family Visiting 590.350 – Offender Change Programs 700.000 – Work Programs for Offenders</p>	<p>Internal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resource limitations for program achievement <p>External:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> On average, nearly 47 percent of offenders 21 years and younger do not have a GED or HSD. For Offenders 22 years and older the average is 33 percent. 	<p>Increase Educational achievement levels pre-incarceration.</p> <p>Increase graduation rates for offenders in prison.</p> <p>Target basic skills resource based on offender needs.</p> <p>Continue implementation of GED Fast Track program.</p> <p>Increase enrollments, intensity, and decrease interruptions</p>

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			<p>to programming.</p> <p>Increase support and resources.</p>
<p>17. Services for parents while incarcerated: mental health and chemical dependency</p> <p>17. Services for parents while incarcerated: mental health and chemical dependency, <i>cont.</i></p>	<p>560.200 – Religious Programs 590.350 – Offender Change Programs 630.510 – Mental Health Services 640.050 – Mental Health and Chemical Dependency Information Sharing 670.500 Chemical Dependency Treatment Services</p> <p><i>Cont.</i></p>	<p>Internal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resource limitations • Lack of continuum of care for mental health services from Prison through to Release to Community • Funds for the provision of Chemical Dependency Treatment are dedicated to direct service for offenders and are not currently funded at a level that provides program support for children or family members • CD has limited contact with family • CD services are performance based and DOC cannot increase services or contract hours under current allocation. <p>External:</p>	<p>Establish continuity of care with DSHS and Community Based providers for returning offenders.</p> <p>Engage families more directly in treatment education and awareness.</p> <p>Increase Mental Health and Chemical Dependency staff involvement in FC programming,</p>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family burnout • Systemic mental illness or chemical dependency issues in the family • Community resources limited 	
<p>18. Services to assist parents and children in transitioning from incarceration to family settings</p>	<p>320.480 – Community Justice Centers 350.300 – Mutual Reentry Program 530.150 – Offender Family Support 530.300 – Reentry Voluntary Assistance for Offenders with no Supervision 560.200 – Religious Programs 590.300 – Residential Parenting Program 590.350 – Offender Change Programs</p> <p>Preparing for Release, Getting it Right, Job Hunters, Moral Recognition Therapy (MRT), Stress and Anger Management (SAM), GED, all other vocational and educational programs.</p>	<p>Internal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offender institutionalization • Role confusion • Resource challenge for qualified transition facilitators <p>External:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family burn out and desire for offender to assume responsibility immediately 	<p>Establish continuity of care with DSHS and Community Based providers for returning offenders</p> <p>Continue to expand vocational and educational programs to enable offenders to obtain living wage jobs.</p> <p>Continue expansion of programs that develop transition agreements, education and awareness with both offenders and family.</p>

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			<p>Make transition programs, tools and information available to families on the Internet.</p>
<p>19. Preventive programs to help reduce rates of incarceration</p> <p>19. Preventive programs to help reduce rates of incarceration, <i>cont.</i></p>	<p>320.480 – Community Justice Centers 500.000 – Education and Vocational Programs for Offenders 500.100 – Correspondence Education for Offenders 530.150 - Offender Family Support 590.350 – Offender Change Programs</p> <p>Getting it Right, Job Hunters, Moral Recognition Therapy (MRT), Stress and Anger Management (SAM), GED, life skills and all other vocational and educational programs.</p>	<p>Internal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resource to include program space, qualified facilitators and funding • Lack of complete needs assessment to include identification of familial issues • Lack of funding targeted to support services to children and families. <p>External:</p>	<p>Continue to expand programs to support identifiable family needs; i.e. gang intervention, drug and alcohol education and awareness for families, expansion of family involvement in Therapeutic Communities.</p> <p>Continue to expand vocational and educational programs to enable offenders to obtain living wage jobs.</p>
<p>20. Arrest protocols to ensure that children’s needs are addressed at time of parental arrest</p>	<p>420.390 – Arrest and Search</p>	<p>Internal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No provision in Arrest policy to address children • Staff education and lack of awareness • Offender use of children to avoid arrest <p>External:</p>	<p>Conduct tactical entries when children are present.</p> <p>Defer to Local Law Enforcement - Sheriff or Police - to determine protective custody needs and assess safety of</p>

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20. Arrest protocols to ensure that children's needs are addressed at time of parental arrest, <i>cont.</i>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No statewide consistent procedures or protocol adopted by law enforcement specific to child presence at arrest • Education on impacts limited • Law enforcement concerns with unfunded mandates • Excessive variances in local area agreements and resources • Lag time between arrest of parent and child placement • Fear/response of child 	<p>placement</p> <p>Place children with known/referred provider when possible</p> <p>If in work release, request that visitors leave prior to arrest</p> <p>Inform Community Corrections Officers of DSHS referral services</p>
21. Training for Department Staff on the special needs of children of incarcerated parents	Training and education concerning awareness and special needs provided at Department supported conferences, meetings and musters	<p>Internal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No formal training incorporated into CORE or NEO curriculum <p>External:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Criminal Justice Training Institute specific training 	<p>Establish formal training mechanism to educate line staff on impacts of incarceration on children and families</p> <p>Offer support of curriculum development to external partners.</p>
22. Cross-training and partnerships established to increase awareness and	320.480 – Community Justice Centers 530.150 - Offender Family Support	<p>Internal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited resources • Hiring Freeze 	Continue to foster, develop and nurture collaboration based on

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strengthen collaborative work with other agencies and organizations	Collaboration extensive to include School Districts, Non Profit Agencies, Multiple Educational Venues and Service Districts, Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, Non-Profits providing services and support to affected population, Law Enforcement, Department of Early Learning, Employment Security Department, Washington Association of Prosecuting Attorneys, Department of Social and Health Services, etc.	External: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited resources Hiring Freeze 	identified need Establish relationships between Family Services and Local Area Providers.
<p>23. Existing Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and/or data share agreements with other Agencies that address the needs of incarcerated parents and/or their children</p> <p>23. Existing Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and/or data share agreements with other Agencies that address the needs of incarcerated parents and/or their children, <i>cont.</i></p>	<p>Current data sharing agreement with DSHS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> DOC sends monthly offender releases DSHS matches offenders to DSHS services (including but not limited to Division of Child Support) 	<p>Internal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> DOC offender data does not consistently include family information <p>External:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> While offenders with children can be identified, actual family connections and service needs are still not available through the current data systems 	<p>Use DSHS birth certificate match data to identify offenders with families. This can be used to proactively develop family programs or services as appropriate.</p> <p>Continue to coordinate with OSPI-DSHS data share to identify location of children, and track indicators of behavior related to having incarcerated parents.</p>
24. Contracts or agreements with community-based organizations or non-profits to provide assistance to children/families of incarcerated parents	<p>320.480 – Community Justice Centers</p> <p>530.150 - Offender Family Support</p> <p>MOU and letters of support and collaboration provided for multiple agencies providing support to children and families to include but not limited to: Spiritual Connections, Girl</p>	<p>Internal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited on site presence of outside providers at events and activities involving families <p>External:</p>	<p>Develop consistent presence of providers at events and activities involving families</p>

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	<p>Scouts of Western Washington, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Puget Sound, Volunteers of America, Spokane Educational Services District, Rebuilding Families, Incorporated, Agape Resource Ministries, Matthew House, Prisoners for Christ, Children’s Home Society, Post Prison Education, Divine Alternatives for Dads.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Challenges working within safety parameters and culture of DOC 	