

Promoting Family Resilience in the Face of Parental Incarceration



Children's Bureau Learning & Coordination Center

Join the National Conversation on Child Abuse and Neglect



Presenters

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Child Abuse and
Neglect*

Guest Speaker



Crystallee Crain, PhD
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Children of Incarcerated
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Welcome: Elaine Voces Stedt
Director, Office on Child Abuse and
Neglect
Children's Bureau
Administration for Children, Youth and
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Moderator: Nilofer Ahsan
Lead, Knowledge and
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cblcc.acf.hhs.gov



History of SFCIPP

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- Formed in 2000—responsible for creating the Children of Incarcerated Parents Bill of Rights
- Leading coalition in the county that brings together public and private sector organizations to create policies and practices that improve the lives of children with incarcerated parents
- Strong partnership with systems and community based organizations

Parental Incarceration and ACEs

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Parental incarceration is recognized as an adverse childhood experience (ACE). It is distinguished from other ACEs by the unique combination of trauma, shame, and stigma. Parental incarceration increases the risk of a child living in poverty or experiencing household instability, independent of any other factors present in that child's life.

Key Intervention Points

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At time of arrest

Preventing
unnecessary
removal

Creating stability
for child

At sentencing

Looking at family
issues at the
time of
sentencing

While a parent is in prison

Supporting
visitation and
contact

At release/re-entry

Re-establishing
connection

Supporting re-
unification

Poll

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- Does an arrest mean that a parent is not fit to take care of their children? Why or why not?
- What are your challenges in creating greater access and pathways for family unity before, during, and after incarceration in jails or prisons?
- What do you need to better support families impacted by incarceration?

Options for Action: Creating a Family Impact Statement (FIS)

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- Used by the San Francisco Adult Probation Department, FIS are meant to establish an understanding by those responsible for sentencing of the impact of incarceration on the family unit.
- Philosophy—Familial incarceration has a long-term impact on families and communities. This impact should be taken into consideration when sentencing individuals who are attached to family units.

Thank You & Next Steps

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- Download the handouts to learn more. Click on the files in the “Handouts” box on your screen.
- Do you have innovative programming or strategies for supporting families impacted by incarceration? Tell us about your work. Send an e-mail to **hello@cblcc.acf.hhs.gov** with “Families Impacted by Incarceration” in the subject line.

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Resources

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- [Supporting Children and Families of Prisoners](#)
- [Reunification and Visits With Parents Who Are Incarcerated](#)
- [Child Welfare Practice With Families Affected by Parental Incarceration](#)
- [Working With the Correctional System and Incarcerated Parents](#) - podcast

Participant Feedback

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Thank you for your participation!

How useful was this session?

Additional Comments:
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