



ANNUAL REPORT

Oklahoma Children of
Incarcerated Parents
Advisory Committee
2022 Partnership Highlights



BACKGROUND

In accordance with Title 10 O.S. § 601.3, the Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth (OCCY) is authorized and directed to establish services for the children of incarcerated parents (CIP).

Duties designed to improve the lives of children of incarcerated parents include:

1. Coordinating research
2. Developing an educational toolkit describing services available to children of incarcerated parents
3. Conducting or providing continuing professional education and training for the purpose of improving services to children
4. Coordinating an Advisory Committee to work collaboratively with agencies and services providers to better meet the needs and improve the quality of life for children of incarcerated parents
5. Collecting data
6. Creating a resource clearinghouse

RESEARCH



**Ashley Harvey, PhD Student
Oklahoma State University
2022-23 OCCY CIP Fellow**

Children of Incarcerated Parents Doctoral Fellows Program

OCCY supports transformative student research and training in Oklahoma. Fellows are actively engaged in a doctoral level scholarship which holds the potential to improve the quality of life for children and families impacted by incarceration and the carceral system in Oklahoma. They are provided with an annual stipend of \$2,500 to support their research studies.

Ashley Harvey, PhD student at Oklahoma State University serves as the 2022-2023 OCCY CIP Fellow. Her dissertation topic examines the strength and interaction of multiple causal variables of maladjustment for children of incarcerated parents. Past research has examined the relationship between parental incarceration and negative child outcomes, but questions regarding how much of the impact is specific to parental incarceration and how much can be accounted for other things such as poverty, neighborhood violence, exposure to substance abuse or mental health issues, etc. Her research will examine the strength and interaction of these variables using structural equation modeling, an advanced statistical technique used to examine causal relationships, not just correlation.

EDUCATIONAL TOOLKIT

Children of Incarcerated Parents Educational Toolkit

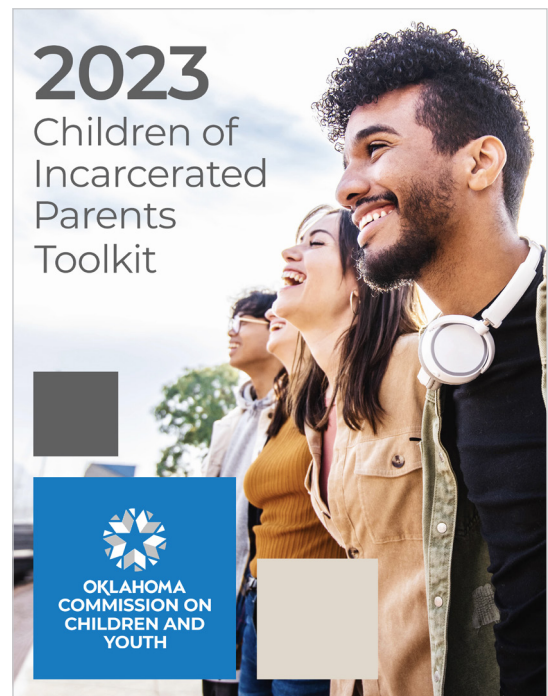
The Children of Incarcerated Parents Toolkit provides caregivers, service providers, educators and others access to information about state and local resources to support children and families. The toolkit includes information related to family support programs, tips for caregivers and educators, answers to questions a child or a student may have about their parent's arrest or incarceration, adverse childhood experiences, positive youth development and other related topics. The toolkit was written, edited, and designed by the Children of Incarcerated Parents Advisory Committee and OCCY staff, with the help of stakeholders, ranging from caregivers, parents, faith-based community members, counselors, educators, social workers, community leaders, child specialists and others.



2022 Children of Incarcerated Parents Toolkit
(oklahoma.gov/occy)



2023-CIP-Toolkit-Digital.pdf (oklahoma.gov/occy)



PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION & TRAINING

Arizona State University 4th Annual Children of Incarcerated Parents National Conference

OCCY sponsored registration for seven community partners to attend the 4th Annual CIP National Conference held virtually on March 30th, April 6th, and April 13th. The conference was hosted by the Arizona State University Center for Child Well-Being. The conference aimed to provide awareness of the impact of incarceration on children and families as well as to increase community capacity to respond in helpful and healing ways. All Oklahoma attendees “strongly agreed” or “agreed” that the conference...

1. Would enhance support and advocacy efforts of their organizations and/or communities served
2. Would be relevant to their work with children, youth, families, and organizations of which they worked
3. Would be applicable in their work with children, youth, families, and organizations



Education



Training



Community
Impact



Results



Photo: Marquess Dennis, Oklahoma Fatherhood Summit



Photo: Governor Kevin Stitt, Oklahoma Fatherhood Summit

Incarceration & Its Impact on Children and Families Continuing Education Workshop

This professional education workshop was held on June 24th at the University of Oklahoma – Tulsa campus. The event was planned and funded by Haruv USA at OU-Tulsa, OCCY, and the Oklahoma Children of Incarcerated Parents Advisory Committee. Keynote presenters included Nancy Correa, DrPH of Texas Children's Hospital and Hilary Cuthrell, PhD, researcher/author. Workshop topics included incarceration through the lens of race and ethnicity, effects of parent incarceration on children and a lived experience panel. Approximately 70 professionals/service providers from across the state were in attendance and provided an 80% excellent rating of the workshop.

2022 Oklahoma Fatherhood Summit

The Oklahoma Fatherhood Summit was held on October 14th at the Dream Center – Tulsa. The event was sponsored by Birthright Living Legacy, Girl Scouts of Eastern Oklahoma, National Center for Fathering, OCCY, Oklahoma Children of Incarcerated Parents Advisory Committee, OUHSC Center for Child Abuse and Neglect and Tulsa Dream Center. The purpose of the summit was to celebrate and honor the important role that fathers play in the lives of children. The event featured keynote presenter, Dr. Ken Canfield of with the National Center for Fathering. Workshop topics included relationship centered fathering; legal issues of custody and visitation for fathers; play therapy; parent advisory committees; and fathering daughters. The summit also featured a panel of fathers with various lived experience from incarceration, grandparents raising grandchild and blended families. Approximately 230 fathers, families, and service providers from across the state attended.

COORDINATION

OJJDP Second Chance Act: Addressing the Needs of Incarcerated Parents and their Minor Children

Oklahoma Department of Corrections (Principal Investigator) and partners Girl Scouts of Eastern Oklahoma, New Hope Oklahoma, Oklahoma Messages Project, OCCY, and the University of Oklahoma have been awarded an U.S. Department of Justice Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Program Second Chance Act – Addressing the Needs of Incarcerated Parents and their Minor Children Grant. The three-year grant totals \$741,960 (FFY23-FFY25) and is focused on positive family engagement strategies such as implementation of the Nurturing Parenting Program®; reunification visits and programming; after-school and camp programming; empowering at-risk youth; connection and literacy services; and program evaluation. Programs will be implemented at one female and one male prison in the state.

DATA COLLECTION

Children of Incarcerated Parents Partnership Evaluation (Partnership Effectiveness Continuum)

In the fall of 2022, OCCY in partnership with the University of Oklahoma Evaluation Team assessed partnership effectiveness within the Children of Incarcerated Parents program. The evaluation utilized the Partnership Effectiveness Continuum, an evidence-based research tool designed to highlight specific areas where the partnership excels and areas to target for partners program improvements. Evaluation results included 78% indicator responses falling within the effective or highly effective rating, and only 2% of responses rated as ineffective. The Communication and Collaboration dimension was among the highest rated followed by Institutional Leadership and Response to Local Context.



2022-Children-of-Incarcerated-Parents-Partnership-Evaluation.pdf (oklahoma.gov)

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PARTNERS

- A Child's Worth
- Big Brothers Big Sisters of Oklahoma
- Birthright Living Legacy Inc.
- Canadian County Children's Justice Center
- City of Norman Police Department
- Criminal Justice and Mercy Ministries
- Diversion Hub
- Family and Children Services of Tulsa
- Girl Scouts of Eastern Oklahoma
- Goodwill Industries of Central Oklahoma
- Haruv USA
- Hunger Free Oklahoma
- Individuals with Lived Experience
- National Center for Fathering
- New Hope Oklahoma
- New York University
- No Judgement Inc.
- Oklahoma Bureau of Narcotics & Dangerous Drugs Control
- Oklahoma City Public Schools
- Oklahoma County Criminal Justice Advisory Council
- Oklahoma Head Start
- Oklahoma Policy Institute
- Oklahoma Department of Corrections
- Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services
- Oklahoma Department of Transportation
- Oklahoma Health Care Authority
- Oklahoma Human Services
- Oklahoma Messages Project
- Oklahoma Office of Juvenile Affairs
- Oklahoma State Department of Education
- Oklahoma State Department of Health
- Oklahoma State University
- Okmulgee Criminal Justice Authority
- Prison Fellowship Ministries
- ProsperOK
- Pryor Public Schools
- Public Strategies
- Rep. Ajay Pittman - OK House District 99
- Restorative Justice Institute of Oklahoma
- Tulsa Dream Center
- University of Central Oklahoma
- University of Oklahoma
- United Way of Central Oklahoma
- Urban League of Greater Oklahoma City
- Work Ready Oklahoma



**OKLAHOMA
COMMISSION ON
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YOUTH**

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