

The Two Generation Impact of Incarceration

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Discussion Points

- Introduction to Maternity Care Coalition (MCC)
- Our programming inside Riverside Correctional Facility
 - MOMobile at Riverside
 - Fit Beginnings for Mom, partnership with Dr. Wright
- Jails vs. Prisons
- Two generations at-risk: Mothers and babies
- Policy, research and practice recommendations

Health Starts Where We Live, Learn, Work & Play

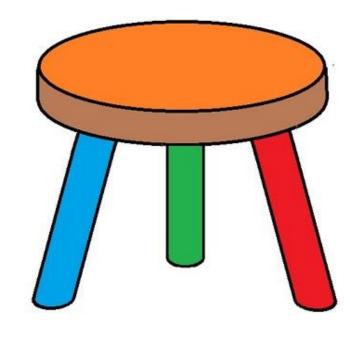




MCC's Mission

 To improve the health and wellbeing of pregnant women and parenting families, and enhance school readiness for children 0-3.

 We achieve this through direct service, advocacy and research, in collaboration with individuals, families, providers, and communities



Direct Services for Families

Research and Evaluation

Public Policy Maternity Care Coalition

Direct Services for Families



The MOMobile at Riverside: A Two-Generation Approach

An innovative collaboration between Maternity Care Coalition and the Philadelphia Department of Prisons

- Four full-time staff located within the jail
- All are certified doulas (birth assistants)
- Helps women transition successfully to parenthood during and after incarceration



Fit Beginnings for Mom

- Individualized health and wellness plan based on a woman's self-identified goals and needs
- Preparation for a healthy re-entry experience for mom and baby

Please choose goals you plan to work on for a healthy lifestyle		Date Created	Date Accomplished
www.aftutterstock.com - 63698968	Goal: Walking I will take steps each day.		

 Facilitates healthy choices in the commissary, participation in physical activity

Women in Jail vs. State Prison

- Short stay, up to 24 months (average 60-90 days for MOMobile)
- Of the 219,000 incarcerated women in the United States, nearly half (44%) are held in local jails*
- Most charged with lower-level offenses: property and drugrelated**
- Nearly 80 percent are mothers and the primary caregivers of their minor children **
- 3 out of 5 are pre-sentenced**
- Roughly two-thirds of women in prison are women of color



^{*}Prison Policy Initiative

^{**}Vera Institute of Justice

Children of Incarcerated Parents

Since women in jails are released relatively quickly, pregnant women often give birth while incarcerated and will be reunited with their young children



- Approximately 10 million children have experienced parental incarceration at some point in their lives*
- Approximately half of children with incarcerated parents are under ten years old*
- Parental incarceration is now recognized as an "adverse childhood experience" (ACE)*
- Essential brain development occurs during pregnancy and through a child's first three years

Mother-child bonding is critical to healthy brain development for young children and *may* serve a protective function for mothers during the reentry period

*National Resource Center on Children & Families of the Incarcerated

Implications for Research, Policy and Practice

Without community support, women often repeat the cycle of incarceration, leading to continued disruption in parent-child bonding

Policy

- Continuum of care
 - Community-based alternatives
 - Support for the reentry process
- Common sense policies
- Food Access
- Shackling
- Collaborations
 - The Philadelphia Reentry Coalition
 - Jails-Community-University-Policymakers

Research and Evaluation

- Evaluation of promising practices
- Collecting comprehensive information

Practice

- Two-generational approach
- Promoting communication and visitation with children
- Gender-responsive programming
- Nutrition and Breastfeeding