

# **Promising Family Strengthening Programs for Justice-Involved Audiences**

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## **Purpose**

This document contains an abridged list and short summary of promising family strengthening programs for justice-involved audiences at the local level. The document provides Extension county educators with a list of the most promising, research-based family strengthening programs for use in local justice systems. All of the programs have been used successfully with county jail inmates and have shown promising results. These programs focus on relationships, communication, conflict, and related information and skills that directly align with family support, one of the key criminogenic needs that research shows as critical to successful programs with correctional audiences. Readers are encouraged to examine each program for its strengths and limitations and assess which programs may offer the best match for local settings. The final section on resources and approaches shares additional ideas to supplement and broaden the scope and impact of the listed family strengthening programs.

## **Family Strengthening Programs**

- I. Building Strong Families: Strength in Times of Stress*
- II. InsideOut Dad®*
- III. Nurturing Parenting Programs*
- IV. Parenting Inside Out*
- V. The DAD Thing and The MOM Thing*
- VI. The Literacy Link*
- VII. Turning Points*

## **I. Building Strong Families: Strength in Times of Stress**

### **Description**

The *Building Strong Families: Strength in Times of Stress* program was developed by University of Wisconsin Extension educators in Ashland and Bayfield Counties. *Building Strong Families* is based on the Family Resilience Framework developed by Froma Walsh, University of Chicago (Walsh, 2006). This approach lends itself to both prevention and intervention applied settings and aims to strengthen families in crisis and transition. *Building Strong Families* promotes family resilience by building on the existing strengths of participants and their families. It is delivered in four sessions of 1.5 to 2 hours each with up to 10 adult learners who are incarcerated in a county jail. Program themes include communication, adaptability, commitment, optimism, respect, and other traits correlated with strong, resilient families. It covers concrete actions individuals and families can take to build these strengths. A family newsletter shares information from each class with key sources of family support identified by the participant.

### **Evaluation**

Program evaluation has included a retrospective post-survey of the four-session class and the accompanying family newsletter. Evaluation shows an increase in understanding of ways to build family resilience through specific actions such as demonstrating active listening, spending time together, fostering optimism, identifying supports and engaging in cultural traditions. Future comparison group studies will provide further evaluation opportunities.

### **Training**

Training is available upon request but is not required.

### **Cost**

Program materials can be downloaded at no cost to Extension educators. Additional program supplies will be needed to run each series.

### **Contact**

Heidi Ungrodt  
University of Wisconsin-Madison, Division of Extension, Ashland County  
715-682-7017  
Heidi.ungrodt@wisc.edu

Elizabeth Lexau  
University of Wisconsin-Madison, Division of Extension, Bayfield County  
715-373-6104  
Elizabeth.lexau@wisc.edu

## **II. InsideOut Dad®**

### **Description**

InsideOut Dad®, designed by the National Fatherhood Initiative, is a parenting program designed specifically for incarcerated fathers. The curriculum includes twelve 2-hour core sessions and six 2-hour optional sessions for reentry. The core sessions promote fathering from the inside through topics on communication, parenting roles, feelings, discipline, and health, among others. The reentry sessions provide fathers with tools regarding parenting on the outside and an emphasis on communication and responsibilities of parenting. There is an additional guide for adapting the curriculum to jails and other short-stay correctional facilities.

### **Evaluation**

Rutgers University's Economic Development Research Group conducted an independent evaluation of InsideOut Dad® in three facilities in 2010-2011. The evaluation curriculum included the twelve 2-hour core sessions. The main findings highlighted improvements in fathering self-efficacy, knowledge, attitude and telephone contact with children in comparison to a control group. Participants in the study were particularly happy with the broad reach of topics as well as the program handbook given to each participant. Further findings can be accessed from Block et al. (2014).

### **Training**

Training is available although not required to use this curriculum. The training is in a 4-hour webinar format with the schedule available online.

### **Cost**

Complete Program Kit: \$699

Includes:

- Core session and Reentry session Facilitator Manuals
- 10 InsideOut Dad® Fathering Handbooks (additional available for purchase)
- 1 USB Flash Drive: pre and post survey, videos, handouts, optional introduction session, certificate of completion, marketing materials

Optional training: \$249

### **Contact**

**FatherSOURCE™ Resource Center**

C/O National Fatherhood Initiative

12410 Milestone Center Dr., Suite 600

Germantown, MD 20876

240-912-1263

[fathersource@fatherhood.org](mailto:fathersource@fatherhood.org)

### **III. Nurturing Parenting Programs**

#### **Description**

Nurturing Parenting Programs are designed to build nurturing parenting skills through a family-centered, trauma-informed approach. The creator of Nurturing Parenting Programs and Family Development Resources, Inc. which publishes the curricula is Dr. Stephen J. Bavolek. The aim of the evidence-based parenting curricula is to promote non-violent parenting practices. The curriculum that has been used within Travis County Jail in Austin, Texas is a modified 5-19 tertiary curriculum that has a duration of 12 weeks with 1.5-2-hour sessions (Sonya M. Thorn, Trainer). The jail has been utilizing the curriculum for three years with success.

#### **Evaluation**

A major component of Nurturing Parenting Programs is assessment. The Travis County Jail has used the Adult Adolescent Parenting Inventory to collect data. The Nurturing Skills Competency Scales is a second frequently used assessment. Assessments occur at the beginning of the program, during the program and at the end of the program.

Palusci, Crum, Bliss and Bavolek (2008) evaluated a modified Nurturing Parenting Program within two different jail programs: a county jail substance abuse rehabilitation program and a county jail batterers intervention program. There were three additional groups within the community that received the parenting program, however, there were no effects on results based on location of intervention. Participants had significant gains in the AAPI from pre to post-test; the greatest gains were in parenting knowledge of appropriate expectations, empathy, and use of corporal punishment.

#### **Training**

Training is three days and in-person. It will be helpful to contact Sonya Thorn or Nurturing Parenting Programs directly to identify the best training opportunity. It is important to attend a training where the facilitator is knowledgeable of implementation in the jail setting.

#### **Cost**

Training: \$375 for training and materials; extra costs with travel to a training location

Additional options include using your location as a host site for a training. Training is general to all Nurturing Parenting Programs, and the trainer will work with each attendee to match them with the right curriculum. Trainings can have up to 25 attendees.

Curriculum: Cost depends on the curriculum and which resources are needed. Consult a trainer or the website for additional information on curriculum costs.

#### **Contact**

Sonya Thorn

The Family Nurturing Center of Texas: National Trainer/Consultant

512-757-0087

Sonyam.thorn@gmail.com; FDR@NurturingParenting.com

<https://www.nurturingparenting.com/>

\*\*\*Sonya Thorn is the Nurturing Parenting Trainer most closely associated with current use of the curriculum in correctional facilities. She is very eager to work with extension educators and provide individualized curriculum modification for the needs of different facilities.

## **IV. Parenting Inside Out**

### **Description**

*Parenting Inside Out (PIO)* is an evidence-based program that focuses on the development of parenting skills. The program was created for use with incarcerated mothers and fathers. There are four versions of *PIO* to be utilized in different settings for different lengths of time. The jail version (*PIO-24*) is the shortest of the four and consists of twelve 2-hour classes. The community version of *PIO* (*PIO-48*) consists of twenty-four 2-hour sessions; this is useful for parents on probation or parole. Both *PIO-24* and *PIO-48* are researched-based versions of the evidence-based prison version (*PIO-90*). The curriculum for *PIO-24* includes topics on communication skill development, problem solving, family routine, and various parenting techniques. With a learner-centered design, *PIO* aims to meet the needs of each parent individually by giving them the tools they need to take home for healthy parenting.

### **Evaluation**

*PIO* has largely been evaluated in the prison setting with the prison version (*PIO-90*) of the course. The longitudinal randomized controlled trial of *PIO* (Eddy, Martinez Jr. & Burraston, 2013) had the following results:

- Reduction in recidivism
- Better attitude and adjustment to prison
- Better parent engagement
- Reduction in substance abuse post-release

### **Training**

Certification in *PIO* requires the completion of a 12-hour webinar training program over a three-month period. The coach completes the first eight hours before teaching *PIO* and completes the next four hours over the next two months. The training schedule can be accessed on the *PIO* website.

### **Cost**

Training webinar: \$775 per person

Curriculum License for *PIO-24*: \$1,000 one-time fee (one site up to 150 participants/year)

Curriculum Manual for *PIO-24*: \$400

Parent Training DVD: \$50

Shipping: \$35

### **Contact**

Richard Hines-Norwood

971-806-0032

[PIO@thepathfindernetwork.org](mailto:PIO@thepathfindernetwork.org)

## **V. The DAD Thing and The MOM Thing**

### **Description**

The DAD Thing and The MOM Thing is a compilation of multiple curriculums: The National Partnership for Community Leadership's (NPCL) evidence-based *Fatherhood Development Curriculum: Growing Responsible Fathers*, the International Forgiveness Institute's *Forgiveness: A Pathway to Emotional Healing*, and PREP's *Within My Reach, On My Shoulders* and *Walking the Line* curricula. Locally, the program has been titled *The DAD Thing* and more recent adaptations have been made for women and offered, entitled *The MOM Thing*. The Extension educator, Mary Campbell Wood, incorporates portions of each curriculum to enhance the foundational program for justice-involved audiences and their family members, within jail and community settings. The curriculum also contains resources from the National Extension Relationship and Marriage Education Network (NERMEN), select films, and connection with local libraries and children's classroom teachers. Additional curriculum topics include: Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), trauma, toxic stress, building protective factors and resilience, forgiveness, and co-parenting. This curriculum is non-sequential and is comprised of twelve to sixteen two-hour sessions, with homework in between classes, for a total of twenty-four to thirty-two hours of instruction.

### **Evaluation**

Evaluation of The DAD Thing and The MOM Thing has consisted of mid and end-of-session self-reports, post-session interviews, and anecdotal reports from correctional staff, probation agents, social workers and family members.

### **Training**

Contact Mary Campbell Wood. Mary is a Master Trainer of *Fatherhood Development Curriculum: Growing Responsible Fathers*. She is also trained and certified in *Forgiveness: A Pathway to Emotional Healing*, *Within My Reach, On My Shoulders* and *Walking the Line*.

### **Cost**

Contact Mary Campbell Wood.

### **Contact**

Mary Campbell Wood, Human Development and Relationships Professor  
UW-Madison, Division of Extension  
Buffalo and Pepin Counties  
608-685-6252 or 715-672-5214  
[mary.campbellwood@wisc.edu](mailto:mary.campbellwood@wisc.edu)

### **Links to curriculum components:**

Fatherhood Development Curriculum: <https://www.npclfathersandfamilies.org/mentor-team>  
PREP Within My Reach, On My Shoulders and Walking the Line:  
<https://www.prepinc.com/content/CURRICULA/For-Individuals.htm>  
National Extension Relationship and Marriage and Education Network (NERMEN)  
<https://www.fcs.uga.edu/nermen>  
International Forgiveness Institute <https://internationalforgiveness.com/>

## **VI. The Literacy Link**

### **Program Description**

The Literacy Link began as a pilot project consisting of six counties in Wisconsin: Ashland, Bayfield, Buffalo, Dane, Pepin and Racine. The aim of the project is to foster positive, literacy-focused interactions between children and their justice-involved parents/caregivers as well as create learning-rich environments and experiences that nurture children's language and literacy development during jail visits and everyday life. Extension educators work with diverse local partners to reach these objectives using the four strategies listed below that are most appropriate for their specific communities.

1. Physical Space & Environmental Changes:
  - a. Spatial changes vary across each justice facility and can involve simple additions or a total makeover of the visitation space. The main idea is to create a family-friendly, learning-rich environment within the jail. Examples of changes include bookshelves, a book vending machine, and tabletop learning activities.
2. Recorded Reading:
  - a. The Literacy Link recorded book reading program is called *Making Reading Memories* (MRM). Jailed parents complete a required workshop to practice reading out loud and dialogic reading as the first step. The parent is then recorded reading a developmentally appropriate book to the child and the recording is sent via a secure file sharing platform such as Box. The child can access the recording as often as they want and read along with the book their parent is reading in the video.
3. TeleStory (Televisitation):
  - a. Modeled on the Brooklyn, New York Public Library's program, TeleStory creates an alternative to the for-profit video visiting model. By partnering with local libraries, children can visit with their incarcerated parent through a laptop at a local library in a child-friendly, learning-rich space. Both child and parent interact using matching educational materials that focus on literacy and learning. A secondary benefit of this program is the additional access to resources that a library can provide to families.
4. Parent Education and Support:
  - a. The Literacy Link supports a variety of parent education and parent coaching programs in county jails and other local justice settings. These range from workshops to multi-session classroom series to educational materials on electronic tablets.

### **Evaluation**

Data from pilot sites shows changes in home environments (increase in number of high quality children's books), family routines being established specific to reading, increased quality and quantity of literacy-interaction between children and justice-involved parents, and policies enacted to support and sustain the effort.

**Training**

Extension educators who implement The Literacy Link will participate in coaching and professional development from colleagues involved in the pilot sites.

**Cost**

Costs depend on the specific facility and the strategies involved. Limited start-up funds are available for new sites.

**Contact**

Mary Huser, Program Specialist  
University of Wisconsin-Madison, Division of Extension  
608-265-3589  
Mary.huser@wisc.edu

## **VII. Turning Points**

### **Description**

*Turning Points* is a parenting curriculum for incarcerated parents who are transitioning back into their roles as a parent. The creators recommend this program for parents who will be released in a few years or less, returning to their role as a parent, and serving sentences for minimal offenses. The curriculum is available in both English and Spanish and includes fifteen 1.5-hour lessons on parenting and family transitioning. Sessions topics include communicating from a distance, rebuilding trust, learning positive discipline and reunification. The curriculum has been modified by others to ten lessons for shorter term settings that may not allow for fifteen lessons (see Urban & Burton, 2015).

### **Evaluation**

Practical Parent Education conducted evaluations of *Turning Points* in 2004 and 2005. The 2005 data consisted of 153 reports from parents who participated in *Turning Points*. Responses for both years indicated that most participants gained parenting knowledge, useful parenting strategies, parenting confidence and an intent to practice the new skills with their children from the curriculum. Further, the average growth in knowledge about parenting topics from pre to post-test was 38% in 2005 and 40% in 2004.

There is further evaluation of *Turning Points* within the Chillicothe Correctional Center in Missouri (Urban & Burton, 2015). The entire project included *Turning Points*, enhanced visiting for the mother/child, and ongoing offender support groups for mothers to help with parenting. The results reported came from three years of *Turning Points* parenting classes. Similar to the previous evaluations, mean posttest scores for lessons were significantly higher than pretest scores, parents indicated they learned useful information, and parents felt more confident in their parenting skills as a result of the curriculum.

### **Training**

Training includes a three-hour online webinar that is scheduled with a representative from Practical Parent Education, the creator of *Turning Points*. There is an optional opportunity to attend and observe a *Turning Points* class at Collin County Detention Center in McKinney, Texas.

### **Cost**

Curriculum license and training for one facilitator: \$500

Membership renewal for continued access to the online curriculum: \$59/year

### **Contact**

Practical Parent Education

972-423-6262 or 877-340-6262

[ppe@practicalparent.org](mailto:ppe@practicalparent.org)

## Promising Family Strengthening Programs Overview

<b>Title</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Audience</b>	<b>Duration</b>	<b>Resources + Training</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Contact</b>
<i>Building Strong Families: Strength in Times of Stress</i>	UW-Madison, Division of Extension, Ashland and Bayfield Counties	Persons in county jails (parents or non-parents)	Four 1.5-2-hour sessions	Curriculum + optional training	Supplies cost only	Liz Lexau-Bayfield County 715-373-6104 Elizabeth.lexau@wisc.edu  Heidi Ungrodt-Ashland County 715-682-7017 Heidi.ungrodt@wisc.edu
<i>InsideOut Dad®</i>	National Fatherhood Initiative	Fathers in short or long-term facilities	Twelve 2-hour core sessions; Six 2-hour optional reentry sessions; Guide available to shorten to 12 total hours in jail setting	Curriculum + optional 4-hour webinar training	\$699 for Complete Program Kit, \$249 for optional training, recurring workbook costs	<b>FatherSOURCE™ Resource Center</b> 240-912-1263 fathersource@fatherhood.org <a href="https://store.fatherhood.org/insideout-dad-programs/">https://store.fatherhood.org/insideout-dad-programs/</a>
<i>Nurturing Parenting Programs</i>	Family Development Resources, Inc.	High risk parents and families	Fifteen 2.5-hour sessions in regular curriculum; Shortened to twelve 1.5-2-hour lessons in jail	Curriculum + 3 day in-person training	\$375 for training, curriculum cost will range, recurring workbook costs	Sonya Thorn The Family Nurturing Center of Texas: National Trainer/Consultant 512-757-0087 Sonyam.thorn@gmail.com <a href="https://www.nurturingparenting.com/">https://www.nurturingparenting.com/</a>
<i>Parenting Inside Out (PIO-Jail)</i>	The Pathfinder Network	Parents in prison, jail or reentering community settings	PIO-Jail is twelve 2-hour sessions	Curriculum + 12-hour webinar training	\$1,000 license, \$400 curriculum, \$775 training	Richard Hines-Norwood 971-806-0032 PIO@thepathfindernetwork.org <a href="http://www.parentinginsideout.org/welcome-to-parenting-inside-out/">http://www.parentinginsideout.org/welcome-to-parenting-inside-out/</a>

Title	Source	Audience	Duration	Resources + Training	Cost	Contact
<i>The DAD Thing and The MOM Thing</i>	UW-Madison, Division of Extension, Buffalo and Pepin County	Justice-involved audiences and family members	Twelve to sixteen 2-hour sessions	Curriculum + consultation with Extension educator	Consult with Mary Wood	Mary Wood Buffalo and Pepin Counties 715-672-5214 Mary.campbellwood@wisc.edu
<i>The Literacy Link</i>	UW-Madison, Division of Extension	Local justice-involved families	Depends on strategy selected – <i>Making Reading Memories</i> recorded book reading, TeleStory video visitation, child-friendly literacy-rich spaces, and parent education & support			Mary Huser Extension Program Specialist 608-265-3589 Mary.huser@wisc.edu
<i>Turning Points</i>	Practical Parent Education	Parents serving shorter sentences & reentering their parenting role	Fifteen 1.5-hour lessons; Has been shortened to twelve or ten lessons	Curriculum + 3-hour webinar training + optional site visit	\$500 for licensing and training; \$59/year renewal for online curriculum access	<b>Practical Parent Education</b> 877-340-6262 or 972-423-6262 ppe@practicalparent.org <a href="https://www.practicalparent.org/turning-points.html">https://www.practicalparent.org/turning-points.html</a>

## **Resources and Approaches to Supplement Family Strengthening Programs**

The following resources are intended to supplement the previously listed family strengthening programs. While each can be incorporated into the local justice setting as a stand-alone family strengthening support, it will be further beneficial if incorporated with a previous program.

### **Child enhanced visitation**

Child enhanced visitation can involve a variety of family-centered practices such as special family visiting rooms, longer visitation, allowance of greater physical contact, and increased shared activity. Enhanced visitation can reinforce family strengthening skills that have been learned in the parenting course the parent/guardian is taking. Dr. Rebecca Shlafer's research team evaluated extended visiting within the Minnesota Department of Corrections and found that mothers preferred extended visits to regular visits for three main reasons: allowance of physical contact, more freedom for children without strict rules, and enhanced activities and structure (Extended Visiting Executive Summary, 2014).

### **Parenting support group**

Parenting support groups can provide parents and guardians the opportunity to connect with others who are in a similar situation. The group can complement a family strengthening program as a way for parents to reflect on materials and share thoughts outside of the class. Additionally, the group can serve as an effective alumni program for parents and guardians who have graduated from a family strengthening class and would like to continue their learning.

### **Sesame Street materials**

Sesame Street's *Little Children, Big Challenges* provides developmentally appropriate resources for children who have experienced the incarceration of a loved one. These materials have a variety of supports for children, their caregivers, and the incarcerated parent. One way to supplement family strengthening programs is with the visitation tips for incarcerated parents as well as the activity sheets. The parent's preparation for the visit reinforces the time they spend with the child during the visit.

*Website:* <https://sesamestreetincommunities.org/topics/incarceration/>

### **Books about parental incarceration**

Authors have written books about parental incarceration for both the justice-involved parent as well as children. The former can provide specific resources for the parent while the latter can help the parent understand how their child may be feeling.

*Examples:*

1. Parenting From Prison: A Hands-on Guide for Incarcerated Parents by James Birney
2. Parenting from a Distance: Your Rights and Responsibilities by Janet Walker
3. Teach Inside: Parenting, Family and Reentry Activities for Prison Classrooms by Janet Walker
4. Children's books
  - a. Visiting Day by Jacqueline Woodson
  - b. The Night Dad Went to Jail by Melissa Higgins

- c. Far Apart, Close in Heart: Being a Family when a Loved One is Incarcerated by Becky Birtha
- d. My Daddy's in Jail by Anthony Curcio

### **Other Resources for Family Strengthening within Justice-Involved Settings**

The following resources are programs and organizations that exist beyond the direct scope of this document and/or the local justice system. They have been included in this document to provide additional examples of family strengthening possibilities within the justice system. Each has a unique focus; if the program is of interest, the contact person and website will provide further information and ideas on how to adapt the program for the jail/local justice setting.

#### **People Empowering People**

*Focus area:* Personal development + community action

People Empowering People (PEP) is a personal and family development curriculum created by the University of Connecticut Extension. Extension educators have implemented PEP within family resource centers, community agencies, faith-based communities, and correctional institutions. The curriculum centers around topics such as values, communication, problem solving, leadership, parenting and community involvement. Although PEP's aim is not directly family strengthening, the curriculum has a solid evidence base and has been used within the Connecticut justice system.

*Contact:*

Dr. Cathleen Love, UConn Extension, [cathleen.love@uconn.edu](mailto:cathleen.love@uconn.edu)  
<https://pep.extension.uconn.edu/>

#### **Parenting, Prison & Pups:**

*Focus area:* Animal-assisted therapy combined with a parenting curriculum

Parenting, Prison and Pups (PPP) is the first of its kind to combine animal-assisted therapy with an evidence-based parenting curriculum. PPP is a research partnership between Pace University, The Good Dog Foundation and two correctional facilities in New York. This multi-year research study is currently underway and will compare a parenting program to a parenting program with an animal-assisted therapy component; the parenting program is *Parenting Inside Out*.

*Contact:*

Dr. Kimberly Collica-Cox, PACE University, [kcollicacox@pace.edu](mailto:kcollicacox@pace.edu)  
<http://thegooddogfoundation.org/parenting-prison-pups/>

#### **Girl Scouts Beyond Bars:**

*Focus area:* Bringing Girl Scouts into the justice system

Girl Scouts Beyond Bars (GSBB) began as a demonstration grant from the National Institute of Justice to the Girl Scouts of Central Maryland in 1992. Today, GSBB exists within 15 states. Due to a loss of government funding, some councils have ended the program. According to Girl Scouts of Central Maryland, the program has served thousands of girls in 30 Girl Scout councils nationwide out of 112 councils. GSBB aims to maintain the mother-daughter bond through typical Girl Scout troop meetings and activities within the prison.

*Contact:*

Girl Scouts U.S.A. or individual states

<https://www.gscm.org/en/support-us/BeyondBars.html> (site for Girl Scouts of Central Maryland: founder of GSBB)

**4-H LIFE program:**

*Focus area:* Bringing 4-H into the justice system

The University of Missouri Extension developed the 4-H Living Interactive Family Education (LIFE) program. The program provides enhanced family visits through 4-H family/club meetings held within the correctional facility. Outside of the 4-H club meetings, the incarcerated parents attend parenting classes and meetings to plan educational activities for the next family visit. As of the publishing of this document, the 4-H LIFE developers were updating their webpage and revising the curriculum.

*Contact:*

Lynna Lawson, University of Missouri Extension, [LawsonL@missouri.edu](mailto:LawsonL@missouri.edu)  
<http://extension.missouri.edu/4hlife/home.aspx>

**Ostara Initiative, Inc.** (includes Minnesota Prison Doula Project and Alabama Prison Birth Project)

*Focus area:* Providing support for incarcerated pregnant women

The Ostara Initiative, Inc. is the parent organization of the Minnesota Prison Doula Project and the Alabama Prison Birth Project. The aim is to provide pregnancy and parenting support to incarcerated parents through birth support from trained doulas, group-based education, individual education and supportive visitation. The MNPDP serves people in MCF-Shakopee, the women's state prison, as well as people in county jails throughout Minnesota.

*Contact:*

Ostara Initiative, [info@ostarainitiative.org](mailto:info@ostarainitiative.org)  
<http://ostarainitiative.org/>

**Madison Area Urban Ministry**

*Focus area:* Reentry programs, child mentoring & reentry simulation

Madison Area Urban Ministry focuses on reentry services for those returning to the community after incarceration as well as programs for families of those incarcerated. Programming for incarcerated persons focuses on reentry services, community support, and vocational training. Programming for children of incarcerated parents includes community mentorship, organized parent-child visits and recorded book reading by the incarcerated parent. A further unique component of MUM is a reentry simulation workshop that provides community members with a realistic view of reentry after a person returns from a correctional facility.

*Contact:*

Madison Area Urban Ministry, 608-256-0906  
<https://emum.org/>

## References

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- Palusci, Crum, Bliss, & Bavolek. (2008). Changes in parenting attitudes and knowledge among inmates and other at-risk populations after a family nurturing program. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 30(1), 79-89.
- Urban, L., & Burton, B. (2015). Evaluating the Turning Points Curriculum: A Three-Year Study to Assess Parenting Knowledge in a Sample of Incarcerated Women. *Journal of Correctional Education*, 66(1), 58-74.
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