



Coastal Horizons

OUR CHILDREN'S PLACE

2022

See Us,
Support Us


See Us, Support Us Month 2022





▶▶▶ Guidance for those working in health and mental health settings and beyond


This October, See Us, Support Us (SUSU) focuses on supporting children of incarcerated parents' physical health and emotional wellbeing.

www.susu-osborne.org

 OsborneAssociation

 @OsborneNY

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 SeeUsSupportUs



Please join Our Children's Place of Coastal Horizons this month for See Us, Support Us (SUSU). SUSU raises awareness about and increases support for children of incarcerated parents. It is a year-round effort with national partners, culminating in a month of action in October. This year, SUSU focuses on supporting children's physical health and emotional wellbeing.

WHAT I CAN DO Pledge!

"I'm not a teacher, social worker, or counselor, but I am a community member and want to support children with incarcerated and returning parents. What can I do?"

As part of this year's national See Us, Support Us campaign in October, we invite you to take this pledge!

I PLEDGE to:

- ☐ Not assume based on what I see in the media or online
- ☐ Use different language – parent, mother, father, etc., rather than offender, criminal, or inmate – and encourage others to do the same. Words matter!
- ☐ See if my library has books about children with incarcerated parents. If not, I'll ask them to add to their collection.
- ☐ Ask if the schools and afterschool programs in my community know about their student population affected by incarceration and have resources available to support students with incarcerated and returning parents.
- ☐ Share the SUSU information with at least one physical or mental health provider in my community.
- ☐ Learn more about the children and families impacted by parental incarceration and reentry.

Name _____

County _____

YOUTH JOURNALISM OPPORTUNITY

This project invites North Carolina middle and high schoolers to share their experience of having an incarcerated or returning parent.

PROJECT LED BY



RACHEL CRUMPLER

Prison and Jail Health
Reporter at NC Health News
via Report for America

PROJECT DETAILS:

- Start date: early November 2022
- Duration: approximately 3 months
- Meeting dates: 2 group Zoom sessions per month lasting about 1 hour each
- Learn about writing, podcasting and photography
- Participants will spend some time interviewing and writing outside of the scheduled Zoom sessions
- Participants' finished work will be published on NC Health News' website

WHY PARTICIPATE?

There aren't many stories humanizing people experiencing incarceration or about the resulting consequences children and loved ones face in their absence. Who can tell these stories the best? The children impacted.

CONTACT:

Email Rachel at rcrumpler@northcarolinahealthnews.org for more information or to sign up



Live Oak Bank MPAC Supports OCP

"Our involvement with OCP started with the idea of one of our members doing something for children with incarcerated parents. Minority Professionals Aligned Communities (MPAC) is an employee resource group started last year here at Live Oak Bank. The mission of the group is to align with communities through consistent action, awareness,

and recognition. So, when a connection was forged with Coastal Horizons and Our Children's Place, we were immediately excited to learn more and become involved in such a wonderful organization. What resonated the most with our group was the statement that in North Carolina alone, more than 17,000 children have a parent in prison. To know Our Children's Place is committed to the well-being of these children through advocacy, education, and outreach is what we are looking for to be a part of. MPAC will begin this fall to start volunteering to be mentors, tutors, and lunch buddies with some of these children with incarcerated parents, and we all are excited! We look forward to being consistent in these kids' lives with the hope of inspiring them that no matter your circumstances, you can do it!"

Danielle McIntosh, Technology Support Manager,
Live Oak Bank



Family Re-Entry Support and Help Grant

In the fall of 2021, Our Children's Place began implementing the FRESH (Family Re-Entry Support and Help) grant from the North Carolina Department of Public Safety. Since that time, OCP staff members have:

- * conducted 14 training sessions (focused on the importance of the parent-child relationships and visits) in five locations with 160 staff members from 13 designated re-entry prison facilities across the state, as well as regional and statewide office staff
- * hired the first of three care managers who will work in two prisons, with the two future hires to work in

three additional prisons

* toured the visiting spaces at 13 prisons and developed a checklist of ways to make those spaces more child-friendly

* reviewed the visiting policies and procedures for those same 13 prisons, with the next step being to provide feedback on making those more child friendly.



Invite OCP to Present a Workshop to Your Organization

The counties in color are places where Our Children's Place has made a presentation or presented a workshop (in person or virtual) since January 2015. Have we been to your community? If not (or if it's time for a refresher), please invite us!

[Invite Us](#)



Help a Family in Need of Bunk Beds

A mother in Charlotte has reached out to us requesting assistance with securing bunk beds for her two youngest children. Her husband and father of the children is in prison in North Carolina currently serving an eighteen year sentence. To donate, click [here](#).



Calling All Artists!

Our By Kids (& Kids at Heart), For Kids Virtual Art Auction will be back this fall! The auction will open Monday, November 21st and close Sunday, November 27th so items can be shipped to you just in time for holiday gift giving. If you would like to donate art, please contact us by clicking [here](#).

Our Children's Place of Coastal Horizons is a statewide program committed to the well-being of children of incarcerated and returning parents through advocacy, education, and outreach. Our work centers on educating professionals about the impacts of parental incarceration and reentry; supporting the relationships between the children and their parents; and identifying and promoting policies, programs, and practices which improve the outcomes for the children. Over the past year, we conducted **65** workshops for **2,268** professionals. These workshops were a combination of in-person, virtual and hybrid, a trend that will continue for the foreseeable future.

Donate Now



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