



Coastal Horizons

OUR CHILDREN'S PLACE



See Us, Support Us

Increasing visibility and support for children of incarcerated parents



See Us, Support Us (SUSU) raises awareness about and increases support for children of incarcerated parents. Launched in 2015 by the Osborne Association's [New York Initiative for Children of Incarcerated Parents \(NYCIP\)](#), SUSU began as a month-long effort to see and support children of incarcerated parents. SUSU is now a year-round effort with national partners, culminating in a month of action in October. Despite the fact that one in 28 children in the United States experience parental incarceration, many remain unseen. This invisibility isolates and harms children and hinders service providers, educators, and communities from supporting them. Stigma, inaccurate stereotypes, and harmful narratives can further isolate children and families. SUSU aims to decrease stigma, build community, share supportive resources, and celebrate children who thrive and succeed when we SEE and SUPPORT them.

[Our Children's Place of Coastal Horizons Center](#) is a statewide program committed to the well-being of these children through advocacy, education, and outreach. Our Children's Place

was honored to be part of See Us, Support Us month. We extend our gratitude to all those who joined us in illuminating this important matter and ensuring that the children of incarcerated parents are both seen and supported. Featured in the photos above (clockwise, starting in the upper left corner): members of the Our Children's Place Advisory Board; Knit One, Pray Two group at Chapel Hill Bible Church; Orange Correctional Volunteers; and Justice Services Division of Coastal Horizons.

Making An Impact: 13 NC prisons working to make visitation spaces more child-friendly



Our Children's Place, under the guidance of program director Melissa Radcliff, has been instrumental in transforming the visitation experience for children visiting their incarcerated parents. Radcliff's advocacy and education efforts have inspired 13 correctional facilities to redesign their visitation spaces to be more child-friendly. This initiative, supported by a grant from the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, aims to create a less traumatizing environment for children who often have to navigate barbed wire fences and security checks during their visits. The changes include introducing board games, snacks, holiday activities, parenting classes, and more, resulting in more engaged and positive visits. By fostering a family-friendly atmosphere, these prisons are working to support parent-child relationships and minimize the harm associated with parental incarceration. [Click here to learn more.](#)



Attention Artists of All Ages & Skill Levels!

We're excited to announce the return of our **By Kids (& Kids at Heart), For Kids Virtual Art Auction** benefitting **Our Children's Place** this holiday season! The auction is set to open on Tuesday, November 21st, and will run until Giving Tuesday, November 28th, ensuring that items can be delivered to you in time for the holiday season. If you wish to contribute your artwork, [click here](#) and tap "Donate an Item Now." Your participation will make a significant impact! For additional details, [click here](#).

Amber's Heartwarming Story: A Day of Reconnection for Families Through Our Children's Place

Why Me for OCP?



My husband and daughters at Parent Day.
Randolph Correctional ~ March 2023

Amber Nance



My family had the pleasure of learning about Our Children's Place (OCP) when the organization planned a "Parent Day" event at my husband's facility. After almost 6 years of incarceration, OCP allowed my husband the opportunity to "just be Daddy" to our two daughters for the first time since his wrongful conviction placed him in prison. The weight of my husband's absence has left a hole in all of our lives, but thanks to OCP, my husband and our girls were able to enjoy a little piece of home for a day!

As an advocate for my family and others like ours, I am honored to now add a personal commitment to support the success of OCP so that more children like mine can experience the gift of acknowledgement that this organization provides. We have struggled a great deal learning to navigate our life without my husband home, and it is the hope of "something good coming" that always keeps us moving forward. In the eyes of my family, OCP represents that hope of "something good," and we cannot thank them enough for their dedication to families like ours!



FRESH - Family Re-Entry Support and Help - UPDATE

We are thrilled to share that Our Children's Place is now in its second year of rolling out the FRESH program at five correctional facilities throughout North Carolina. These facilities include Anson (both men's and women's units), Greene, Johnston, and Lincoln. We currently have the second and third cohorts actively participating in the program. Our dedicated FRESH care managers play a pivotal role by facilitating the ["Parenting Inside Out" program](#), an evidence-based parenting skills training program specially designed for parents involved with the justice system. Additionally, they provide essential individual case management through regular check-ins. Our team is diligently working to establish connections with families to offer re-entry support and coordinate special visits between children and their incarcerated parents.

[Donate Now](#)



{{Disclaimer}}

Coastal Horizons Center, Inc.
615 Shipyard Blvd.
Wilmington, NC 28412
United States

If you believe you received this message in error or wish to no longer receive email from us, please
(Unsubscribing is not supported in previews).