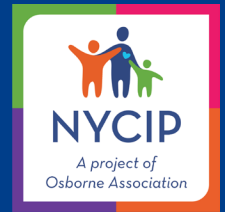


New York Initiative for Children of Incarcerated Parents (NYCIP)

a project of Osborne Association



NYCIP raises awareness, promotes policies and practices, and builds partnerships to ensure that children's rights are upheld, relationships supported, and their potential nurtured during their parent's involvement in the criminal legal system.

Launched by Osborne Association in 2006, NYCIP is a partnership of organizations and government agencies, people with lived experience, and the faith-based community who collaborate to turn the *Children of Incarcerated Parents' Bill of Rights* into a reality.



1-IN-4
BLACK CHILDREN

1-IN-10
LATINX CHILDREN

1-IN-25
WHITE CHILDREN

**EXPERIENCE PARENTAL INCARCERATION
DUE TO RACIAL DISPARITIES IN THE
CRIMINAL LEGAL SYSTEM.**

CHILDREN OF INCARCERATED PARENTS'

BILL OF RIGHTS

I HAVE THE RIGHT...

- 1 to be kept safe and informed at the time of my parent's arrest.
- 2 to be heard when decisions are made about me.
- 3 to be considered when decisions are made about my parent.
- 4 to be well cared for in my parent's absence.
- 5 to speak with, see, and touch my parent.
- 6 to support as I face my parent's incarceration.
- 7 not to be judged, blamed, or labeled because my parent is incarcerated.
- 8 to a lifelong relationship with my parent.

CHILDREN NEED TO BE SEEN AND SUPPORTED

- Separation due to incarceration is a complex loss due to ambiguity and stigma.
- Parental incarceration is an Adverse Childhood Experience.
- Children are more likely to experience homelessness, negative health and behavioral outcomes, and academic challenges.
- Tailored support, strong adult relationships, and peer support promote children's well-being.
- Most children want and benefit from a relationship with their incarcerated parent.

**See Us,
Support Us**



Visit **SUSU** to connect with resources

OUR APPROACH

- Center the experiences and solutions of those with lived experience.
- Apply a child-centered, trauma-informed, and racial equity lens.
- Collaborate with systems to shift practice.
Seek legislative solutions as needed.
- Use language that recognizes our shared humanity and reduces stigma.
Say “**incarcerated parents**” or “**people involved in the criminal legal system.**”

PRINCIPLES

- Children should be considered from the moment of a parent’s arrest through reentry.
- Children should have access to their parents.
- Children should have supports that meet their unique needs.
- Children thrive and succeed despite challenges when they are supported.
- Children should be free from stigma related to their parent’s incarceration.
- We aim to dismantle policies and practices that perpetuate systemic racism.
- We refer to breaking cycles of intergenerational racism, trauma, and poverty, rather than cycles of intergenerational incarceration, which places blame on families.

KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

2011

Released **A Call to Action: Safeguarding New York’s Children of Incarcerated Parents.**

2014

Ashley’s Law requires NYS DOCCS to post visiting rules for all facilities on their website.

NYS Office of Probation and Correctional Alternatives highlights Family Responsibility Statements as a best practice.

2015

Launched **See Us, Support Us (SUSU)** to raise awareness about children of incarcerated parents.

2018

Created resources for ACS on how to include incarcerated parents in case planning and support children’s relationships with their parents.

2019

NYC law directs NYPD to adopt a policy to safeguard children of arrested parents and train personnel.

2020

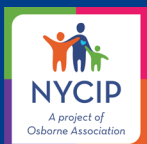
Law directs the NYS Department of Corrections to place parents in facilities closer to their minor children.

2023

Safeguarding Children of Arrested Parents becomes a Law Enforcement Accreditation Standard in NY.

2025

NY enacts the Child Sensitive Arrest Law and issues a Child Sensitive Arrest Procedures **Model Policy.**



Scan the QR code to learn more/
join NYCIP or contact us at
NYInitiative@osborneny.org

