



Family-Based Justice Center

Happy New Year from the Family-Based Justice Center



We hope everyone had a great holiday season. Over the next few months, the U.S. Department of Justice Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) will be posting funding opportunities for FY2023, including a request for proposals for Family-Based Justice Alternatives Program grants. When this opportunity becomes available, we will send out the link. In the meantime, if you'd like to look for other funding opportunities at OJJDP, you can find them [here](#) and sign-up to receive updates when new solicitations are posted.

This month, we'd like to introduce you to the FY2022 OJJDP Family-Based Alternative Sentencing grant recipients.

Washtenaw County, Michigan



Washtenaw County's program is led by the court, which will, in collaboration with the prosecutor's and public defender's offices, provide a pre-plea diversion program for parents/primary caregivers, ages 12 to 25, who are defendants in eligible misdemeanor and felony cases. Participants will be referred to the [Corner Health Center](#) (the Corner), a grant subrecipient that will work with participants to create an individualized, customized, holistic service plan to address their health needs. Plans may include behavioral-health assessments, individual therapy, group therapy, and psychiatric services. The Corner also provides primary medical services, and participants and their children will be connected with a primary-care physician (and obstetrical care, if needed). Plans may also include referrals to educational services, community resources, and mentorship programs. Upon successful completion of the program, all charges will be dismissed.

Fulton County, Georgia



The Fulton County District Attorney's Crimes Against Children Unit and Adult Diversion Unit are collaborating to strengthen the emotional, physical, and social well-being of court-exposed parents and their children. Program participants are connected to [Families First](#), a community-based organization that provides trauma-informed therapy and supportive services for children and parents. Additionally, case managers will provide supervision under the Adult Diversion Program Unit. Case-supervision goals will focus on restoring the family unit using rehabilitative services such as crisis management and coping skills.

Sunrise Health Clinics, Las Vegas



Sunrise Health Clinics is an integrated health clinic that uses a wraparound, three-tier model of care to restore people to their highest level of functioning. Sunrise's [Family First](#) program rehabilitates justice-involved families, with the goals of keeping families intact and alleviating the stress and burden on children that come from parental incarceration. Using a "moral focus" curriculum comprising daily classes, wellness and family therapy, and direct in-home interventions, this nine-step program focuses on learning concepts and applying skills to prevent recidivism and support family unification.

Staff Highlight:



Our Family-Based Justice Center consultant, Jim Chambers, recently testified to the Washington State House Community Safety, Justice, & Reentry Committee on raising the wages of people incarcerated in the Department of Corrections. He testified that parents in prison especially need higher wages to support their connection to their children. Please view his full testimony [here](#).

In the News:

Madison, WI, held an art show that displayed pieces from children who have experienced parental incarceration. The children had a chance to express how art has been useful to cope with their experience and their plans for their futures. Watch the full video [here](#).

The Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) and the Council of State Governments (CSG) released a joint website that aims to strengthen connections among criminal justice agencies, behavioral health organizations, and communities to improve wellbeing for people with mental health conditions or co-occurring substance use disorders. Check out the new website [here](#).

We thank you for staying up-to-date as we develop the Family-Based Justice Center. Don't forget to retweet [@FBJCenter](#) and forward this newsletter to your contacts.

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