

# **Greetings from the Family-Based Justice Center**



October is See Us, Support Us Month. See Us, Support Us (SUSU) is a community for, and raises awareness about, children of incarcerated parents. This year, SUSU focuses on children whose parents are returning to the community after incarceration. Reentry can be both a joyous and challenging time for children, and they need support. Sign up for their newsletter, follow them on social media (X/Instagram), and visit their website to access resources, hear tips from young people, and learn about calls to action, events, and more. Please spread the word about SUSU and encourage children and youth affected by parental incarceration to follow them and enter their art contest.

In conjunction with See Us, Support Us Month, the Center will host a webinar on how state corrections departments can implement family-furlough policies and programs for incarcerated mothers and fathers. Amanda Woolford, Director of Women's Operations at the Maine Department of Corrections, and Jacinta Hunt, a formerly incarcerated mother who participated in Maine's family-furlough program, will describe its policies, implementation, and impacts. To register for the webinar, please click here.

## **Staff Highlight:**



L-R: Sean Miller (Sunrise Program Director), Isabel Coronado (Family-Based Justice Center Coordinator), Beschelle Lockhart (Sunrise CEO and Grant Administrator), Kayla Riley (Sunrise Senior Advisor and Grant Administrator), Mike Fauble (Sunrise COO), and Adela Collins (Sunrise Director of Administration).

The week of September 4, Family-Based Justice Center staff visited Sunrise Health Clinics in Las Vegas. Sunrise, an FY 2022 grantee from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) Family-Based Alternative Justice program, is an integrated health clinic that uses a wraparound model of care to restore people to their highest level of functioning. Their 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.



L-R: Isabel Coronado (Family-Based Justice Center Coordinator), Elizabeth Lambert-Hughes (Alabama DOC Resource Planning Unit Coordinator), E. Kelley Mautz (Alabama DOC Deputy Commissioner), and Judith Clark (Hour Children Community Justice Advocate).

On September 14, FBJC Coordinator Isabel Coronado participated on a panel at the <u>Second Chance Act Addressing the Needs of Incarcerated Parents and Their Minor Children Grantee</u> (CIP) convening, hosted by the Council of State Governments and OJJDP, for Second Chance Act CIP grantees from around the country to meet fellow grantees and learn about topics that inform their work. They discussed strategies to support family reunification in reentry using early-release mechanisms, adopting policies that support free communications for families, and establishing formal partnerships to support families involved in the child-welfare system.

#### In the News:

Many jails and prisons are moving to reduce the cost of phone calls, with some making them free. Read about the movement <u>here</u>.

The Alachua County, Florida, jail is providing two free non-attorney calls per month, as a pilot towards making all calls free. Read about it here.

Researchers at the University of Chicago find parental incarceration linked to long-term cardiovascular risks. Read the summary <u>here</u>.

Read the story of a young man's journey facing his father's incarceration here.

### **OJJDP Updates:**

October is Youth Justice Action Month. Each year, OJJDP joins with its partners to raise awareness and educate the public about how the justice system impacts children. This year's theme is "Justice Is \_\_\_\_." The YJAM theme gives impacted youth, families, and allies an opportunity to collectively imagine new possibilities for systems of support, healing, and restorative justice. Visit their website to learn more.

#### **RESOURCES:**

- Read about OJJDP's priorities.
- Follow OJJDP on X and Facebook.

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