

Resource Center

Tools and training for volunteer and service programs

Children of Prisoners & Reentry Resources

Contact the library at rc-library@etr.org or 800-860-2684 x260 to borrow items.

Children of Prisoners

Troop 1500: Girl Scouts Beyond Bars (V3426)

At Hilltop Prison in Gatesville, Texas, a unique Girl Scout troop unites daughters with mothers who are serving time for serious crimes. This film uses videotaped interviews that are conducted by the girls to honestly show the hope and disillusionment that come with having an incarcerated mother. Demonstrates an inspiring attempt to strengthen the bond between the girls and their moms in the hopes of breaking the cycle of crime. DVD format. 68 minutes.

<http://nationalservicerresources.org/library/items/V3426>

Sentence of Their Own (V3562)

Shares the story of a woman and her two sons whose husband is serving a seven-year prison sentence. Chronicles the family's annual pilgrimage to the New Hampshire State Prison for a visit. Gives a closer examination and deeper understanding of the impact of incarceration on families, communities, and culture at large. VHS format. 53 minutes.

<http://nationalservicerresources.org/library/items/V3562>

Girl Trouble (V3465)

Tells the compelling personal stories of three female teenagers entangled in San Francisco's juvenile justice system. Shows the girls working part-time at an organization run by young women who have faced similar challenges. Documents the successes and setbacks of a four-year period in the girls' lives. Includes a discussion guide for youth audiences. DVD contains 57-minute PBS version and 74-minute theatrical version.

<http://nationalservicerresources.org/library/items/V3465>

Mentor Guide for People Working with Children of Promise (R2917)

Contains strategies for mentoring children who have an incarcerated parent. Describes stages of mentoring relationships and gives suggestions for activities and for addressing specific underlying issues. See also *People of Faith Mentoring Children of Promise* (R2812) and *Amachi: Mentoring Children of Prisoners in Philadelphia* (M2616).

<http://nationalservicerresources.org/library/items/R2917>

Children with Parents in Prison: Child Welfare Policy, Program, & Practice Issues (R3646)

Explores the many challenges facing the child welfare system as it attempts to work with children with incarcerated parents. Covers permanency planning for children with incarcerated mothers, the impact of changing public policy on relatives caring for children with incarcerated parents, and facilitating parent-child contact in correctional settings. Other topics include earning trust from youths with none to spare, developing quality services for

offenders and families, understanding the forces that influence incarcerated fathers' relationships with their children, and more.

<http://nationalserviceresources.org/library/items/R3646>

Coping When a Parent is in Jail (R2921)

Contains coping strategies for youth who have an incarcerated parent. Includes details about what happens in jail and what visiting is like, what may happen in court, and describes what the overall experience may mean to the young person. Lists resources for how to go about seeking help and has a section of books for further reading.

<http://nationalserviceresources.org/library/items/R2921>

My Mommy's in Prison (M0171)

Illustrated children's book created by the Southwest-Southcentral Pennsylvania AmeriCorps Program. Provides children who have a parent in prison with an understanding of their situation to help alleviate their fears and insecurities.

<http://nationalserviceresources.org/library/items/M0171>

Children of Incarcerated Parents: A Bill of Rights (R2697)

A Bill of Rights derived from interviews with children of incarcerated parents. Each of the eight rights is expanded with the testimony of a young person and concrete action steps agencies and advocates can take to support the right.

<http://nationalserviceresources.org/library/items/R2697>

Responding to Children and Families of Prisoners: A Community Guide (R3432)

Describes the serious risks facing families and children of prisoners and the protective factors that help them survive. Lays out choices and challenges facing communities, provides resources, and outlines strategies for action. Includes an appendix with additional sources of information, references, and background materials.

<http://nationalserviceresources.org/library/items/R3432>

Reentry

Hard Straight: A Documentary About Doing Time on the Outside (V3466)

Shares the powerful stories of three prisoners - a gang member, a mother, and a small-time dealer - who are being released on parole. Shows the reality of the radical transition from prison life to society, including the ecstatic moment of the first taste of freedom, to the inevitable frustrations, joys, and banality of life outside. Documents how some successfully established a new life while others return to prison. DVD format. 54 minutes.

<http://nationalserviceresources.org/library/items/V3466>

Street Soldiers (V0142)

A moving, stereotype-smashing documentary about three African American juvenile offenders struggling to turn their lives around with help from the tough but tender Omega Boys Club of San Francisco, an organization that demonstrates what can be done in a violent community when somebody cares. Narrated by Danny Glover. VHS format. 88 minutes.

<http://nationalserviceresources.org/library/items/V0142>

99 Days and A Get Up: A Guide to Success Following Release for Inmates and Their Loved Ones (R3561)

Offers guidelines for a successful social and emotional transition from prison to the community. Gives honest, direct advice for dealing with the major barriers ex-offenders

must overcome to achieve long-term success. Revised and expanded to cover the last six months pre-release and the first six months post release.

<http://nationalserviceresources.org/library/items/R3561>

Reentry Today: Programs, Problems and Solutions (R3563)

Contains a collection of articles and research on offender reentry from a variety of viewpoints and disciplines. Gives a better understand of the general issues of reentry, outlines some program responses, and provides a few evaluations of programs to date. Intended for practitioners, community leaders, researchers, and students who wish to get involved in crafting successful reentry strategies and programs.

<http://nationalserviceresources.org/library/items/R3563>

What Works and Why: Effective Approaches to Re-Entry (R3564)

Offers a roadmap for working more effectively with offenders and ex-offenders. Contains a collection of essays from researchers and practitioners that analyze practical questions and give realistic responses and long-sought answers. Topics include evidence-based programming, the challenges of prisoner re-entry, public safety, and models of supervision.

<http://nationalserviceresources.org/library/items/R3564>

How to Help a Loved One in Prison (R3416)

Discover the best ways to encourage and support inmates while they are serving time, transitioning from prison to society, and being released. Covers the emotional and physical effects of being incarcerated, the needs of inmates, recidivism and transition, and more. Includes appendices with a dictionary of terms and prison slang, prison rules, and additional resources.

<http://nationalserviceresources.org/library/items/R3416>

Key Components of Effective Prisoner Reentry Programs (R3447)

Designed as a reference for organizations and communities interested in developing or enhancing prisoner reentry programs. Geared towards community-based organizations using national service resources, specifically VISTA members. Provides an introduction, helpful tools, and informative resources for projects seeking to improve the chances of success for ex-offenders.

<http://nationalserviceresources.org/library/items/R3447>