

CONTINUE FUNDING THE FAMILY PRESERVATION PROJECT

THE PROBLEM

Having a parent in prison impacts a child's mental health, social behavior, and educational outcomes. More critical still, some incarcerated parents face termination of parental rights because their children have been in the foster care system beyond the time allowed by law, which is especially impactful for women as a growing population in Oregon are sentenced under Measure 57 for non-violent drug and property crime. As a result, these children often require support from local, state, and federal systems to serve their needs.

A SOLUTION

Continued funding of Family Preservation Project (FPP) through SB 242 promotes individual and systems level change to reduce the collateral consequences of parental incarceration on children, families, and the community. It is designed to interrupt the cycle of intergenerational criminal justice involvement, poverty, and addiction and support successful re-entry to help decrease the risk of recidivism. But more than that, it helps reduce the trauma experienced by the children of incarcerated mothers thereby reducing their future need for state support and improves the likelihood of their success and ability to thrive.

Please support SB 242!

THE FPP IMPACT

- In the last 18 months, FPP has helped at least 10 children maintain placement with family instead of being placed in foster care. At an average rate of \$30,000 per child in foster care, this **saved the state \$300,000 in foster care expenses.**
- Since its inception in the early 2000's, the Intensive Family Reunification program component of FPP has demonstrated a recidivism rate of just over 3%, compared to the state's average rate of over 30%. FPP is having a positive impact on the state women's prison population and the associated **costs of incarceration have been reduced** as a result.
- Research conducted in 2014 found that participants of FPP are more likely to be parenting post-incarceration and those **children are performing well on academic indicators** like school attendance and reading at grade level.

With an investment of \$400,000, the legislature has ensured that fewer children are being placed in the foster care, incarcerated mothers are less likely to recidivate, and children of participants are exhibiting successful outcomes academically, socially, behaviorally and emotionally. This investment has created safer communities and relieves the strain on state resources by interrupting intergenerational criminal justice involvement.

SB 242: A PATH FORWARD

- \$600k per biennium fully funds the program as currently structured.
- \$400K, the FY15-17 allocation, was **matched almost dollar for dollar** through efforts by the YWCA.

WHY FOCUS ON MOTHERS?

- 84% incarcerated mothers had at least one child living with them before incarceration.
- Children of incarcerated mothers are 2.5 times more likely to also become incarcerated in their lifetime than if their father is incarcerated.

STRONG STEWARDSHIP OF PROGRAM BY YWCA

What did they do with the state investment?

- Expand program services such that all women in minimum security are eligible for some level of services
- Developed meaningful partnerships with local universities, lawyers, other service providers, and volunteers. Including:
 - *Lewis and Clark Graduate School of Counseling*
 - *PSU School of Social Work*
 - *Willamette School of Law*
 - *Oregon Tradeswomen*
 - *Junior League of Portland*
 - *Spirit Mountain Community Foundation*
 - *The Clark Foundation*
 - *Oregon Community Foundation*
 - *Faith Communities*
 - *Oregon Commission on Women*
 - *Camp Westwind*
 - *Over 100 individual volunteers*

Intensive Family Reunification

- Therapeutic Visitations
- Parenting Support & Education
- Intensive Transition Planning
- Caregiver Support
- Biopsychosocial assessments

25 children & 12 mothers served each year

Family Resource Center

- Reducing barriers to contact
- Juvenile & Family Law support
- Weekly psycho-educational groups
- Peer mentoring and support

Up to 3600 children & 1440 mothers served each year

Enrichment Activities for Children

- Tutoring Support
- Daycare and Afterschool care
- Sports and Arts Activities
- Summer Camps
- Mentorships

264 children served each year

Family Preservation Project

Caregiver Support

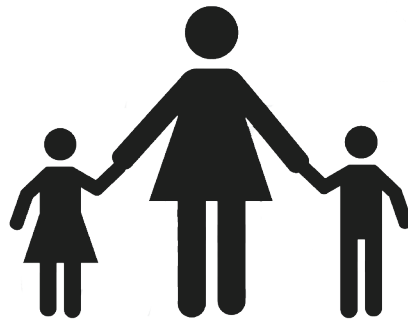
- Bimonthly support group
- Navigating community and government resources
- Provides respite opportunities
- Facilitated family meetings

105 families served each year

OVERCOME

- Peer Support
- Transportation and Supplies
- Reentry & Transition Services
- Connecting to community resources
- 100% volunteer operated

144 mothers served each year



Program Description

Between the Lines

- Reaches both minimum and medium facilities
- Promotes literacy
- Removes distance barrier
- 100% volunteer run

240 children served each year

Monthly Speaker Series

- Open to all women serving in the minimum facility
- Topics include: parenting, legal, re-entry, wellness
- Provided pro-bono by community partners

1200 women served each year

Public Education & Advocacy

- Led by former FPP participants
- Barriers to parenting from prison
- Addresses the needs of children of incarcerated parents
- Engaging all systems that touch a mother and children

20K children served each year