



RESOURCES FOR POLICYMAKERS SUPPORTING CHILDREN WITH INCARCERATED PARENTS (CIP)

Why is This Important?

- 1 in 14 U.S. youth has experienced parental incarceration.
- Youth with incarcerated parents face 3x more adverse childhood experiences (ACEs).
 - The [CDC](#) defines ACEs as potentially traumatic events that occur during childhood.

Impact of Parental Incarceration

- Parental incarceration raises the risk of poverty and household instability for children.
- Systemic inequalities and racism directly affect incarceration rates and, in turn, the CIPs involved.
- Parental incarceration is independently associated with higher rates of learning disabilities, behavioral problems, emotional dysregulation, and developmental delays.
- Parental incarceration impacts age groups differently. A differentiated approach is needed to support CIPs aged 0-17.



In Connecticut, we have...

- [Improved Child-Friendly Visiting in State Facilities](#)
- [Co-Hosted Family Events Promoting Family Connections](#)
- [Trainings for Educators and Correctional Staff](#)
- [Testified in Support of Bills Impacting CIPs](#)
- [Collaborated to Create the Statewide Action Plan for Policymakers](#)
- [Supported CIPs with the CIP Scholarship Fund](#)



Policymakers Should ...

- **Support initiatives benefiting children and families through state agencies beyond the correctional system** (DCF, Judicial, Dep. Of Ed)
- **Consider ages and developmental needs of CIPs** (children ages 0-17 are impacted by parental incarceration and deserve support at all developmental stages)
- **Distinguish CIPs from other youth populations** (children in DCF care or the juvenile justice system may have overlap with parental incarceration, but most CIPs are not in the child welfare system or involved in the juvenile justice system themselves)
- **Consider racial and ethnic disparities when designing legislation or policies**
- **Recognize that a change in state leadership can impact statewide efforts**



COLLABORATE

with statewide initiatives and various agencies (i.e., corrections, child welfare, education, impacted youths and families, etc.)

SUPPORT

initiatives, programs and agencies that impact CIP specifically

ADVOCATE

for cross-agency coordination while maintaining family information privacy



www.ctcip.org



ctcip@uconn.edu



@CTCIPInitiative



@ct.cip



959-200-3820

