

# FATHERS BEHIND BARS:

## The Problem and Solution for America's Children

National Fatherhood Initiative®

### PROBLEM:

There are **2.7 million children** with a parent in prison or jail.<sup>1</sup>



Children who grow up in father absent homes are 4 times more likely to live in poverty.<sup>2</sup>

**92%**

Having a parent who is incarcerated is now recognized as an "adverse childhood experience" (ACE), which is different from other ACEs because of the trauma, stigma, and shame it inflicts on children.<sup>4</sup>

of parents in prison are fathers.<sup>3</sup>

The number of children with a father in prison has grown by



**79%** since 1991.<sup>5</sup>

Incarceration often spans generations.

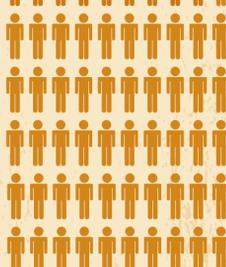
- Fathers in prison are, overwhelmingly, fatherless themselves.<sup>6</sup>
- Youths in father-absent households have significantly higher odds of incarceration.<sup>7</sup>



Fathers are returning to their families without the skills they need to be involved, responsible, and committed fathers.



More than **650,000** ex-offenders are released from prison every year.<sup>8</sup>



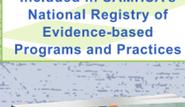
Recidivism is a huge, national problem.



**2/3** of released prisoners, or **429,000**, are likely to be rearrested within three years.<sup>9</sup>

### SOLUTION:

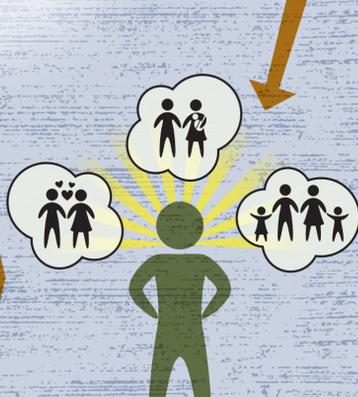
NFI's InsideOut Dad® program for incarcerated fathers connects dads in prison with their children, heart to heart.



InsideOut Dad® is the most widely used evidence-based parenting program designed specifically for incarcerated fathers.



An evaluation conducted by Rutgers University found that fathers who went through InsideOut Dad® while in prison showed statistically significant increases in fathering knowledge and confidence/self-esteem compared to a control group.<sup>10</sup>

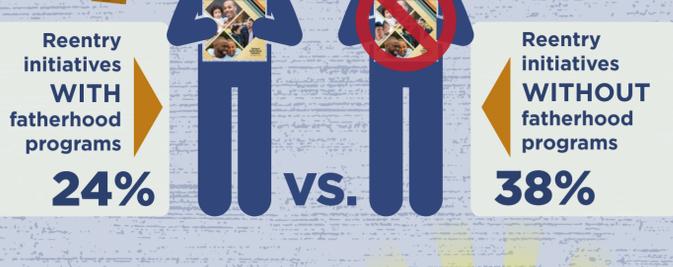


InsideOut Dad® addresses criminogenic needs<sup>11</sup>, a key factor in:

**1. Reducing Recidivism**



Reentry initiatives that contain NFI's fatherhood programs have been found to reduce recidivism by **37%**.<sup>12</sup>



**2. Maintaining Facility Safety and Order**



InsideOut Dad® addresses the marital/family domain<sup>13</sup> that is concerned with an offender's family relationships, including:

- Relationships with parents and siblings
- Absence of parents
- History of family abuse and criminality
- Marital history
- Parenting skills
- Involvement in child abuse

A study by the Vera Institute of Justice found the strongest predictor of success upon reentry was the perception that he/she had family support.<sup>14</sup>



**Cost effective for taxpayers<sup>15</sup> and facilities:**

The InsideOut Dad® program costs just **\$699** for the first 10 fathers, then sustained at only **\$10** per father.<sup>16</sup> Because the program can contribute to reduced recidivism among fathers, the potential cost savings are huge. It costs an average of **\$29,000** per year to incarcerate a parent.<sup>17</sup>



First 10 Dads **\$699**

Just **\$10** per father after program purchase.

Be a Part of The Solution. Visit [Fatherhood.org/ioc](http://Fatherhood.org/ioc) to learn more.

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