# FATHERSBEHIND BARS:National<br/>Fatherhood<br/>Initiative\*The Problem and<br/>Solution for<br/>America's Children

#### **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>

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> 92%

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

#### The number of children with a father in prison

Number 2,000,000 1,750,000 1,250,000 1,000,000 750,000 500,000 250,000 0 1991 1997 1999 2004 2007

by 79%

since 1991.<sup>5</sup>

has grown

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>



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

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



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

Recidivism is a huge, national problem.

\* \* \*

### SOLUTION:

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



Included in SAMHSA's National Registry of Evidence-based Programs and Practices

NREPP

**InsideOut Dad**<sup>®</sup> is the **most widely used evidence-based** parenting program designed specifically for incarcerated fathers.



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

Reducing

Recidivism



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

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







Reentry initiatives WITHOUT fatherhood programs

38%



Maintaining Facility Safety and Order



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



Relationships with parents and siblings



and siblings

Absence of parents



History of family abuse and criminality



Parenting skills

Marital

history

Involvement in child abuse

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



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

The InsideOut Dad<sup>®</sup> 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>





#### Be a Part of The Solution. Visit Fatherhood.org/iod to learn more.

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