

TEETER TOTTER VILLAGE'S Newest Program

- **S**upporting
- **K**ids of
- **I**ncarcerated
- **P**arents

Parental Incarceration and Children*

- 1.5 million children are impacted nationwide by parental incarceration
- 500,000 children impacted in the last decade
- 60% are less than 8 years old
- Children of incarcerated parents are six times more likely to be incarcerated themselves at some point in their lives

* Surveys taken during years 2000 – 2002

Potential Effects of Parental Incarceration on Children*

- Developmental problems associated with losing a parent or family member
- Bonding with and/or becoming completely dependent on substitute caregivers if left as infants
- By age 6, may become more independent, but also may display social, emotional, and traumatic stress impairment
- By age 10, may show less ability to overcome future emotional trauma

* Surveys taken during years 2000 – 2002

Texas Parental Incarceration Facts*

- Parents comprise 70% of the offender population
 - 151,582 as of May 1, 2006
- An estimated 106,000 children have one or both parents in state prisons
 - Does not include those children with parents in Federal prisons, county or city jails, or on probation or parole
- 21% of the total Texas offender population is from Harris County

* Surveys taken during years 2000 – 2002

SKIP Program

Structured workshops enable parents, caregivers, and children to learn and interact in a positive environment

Designed to counteract the adverse effects of parental incarceration on children's development

SKIP Program Goals

- Reunite parents and children in a safe and structured environment
- Strengthen the parent-child bond during the prison term by providing coaching, counseling, and training
- Decrease the occurrence of parental recidivism
- Decrease child abuse and neglect
- Decrease the likelihood of juvenile crime

How Does The SKIP Program Work?

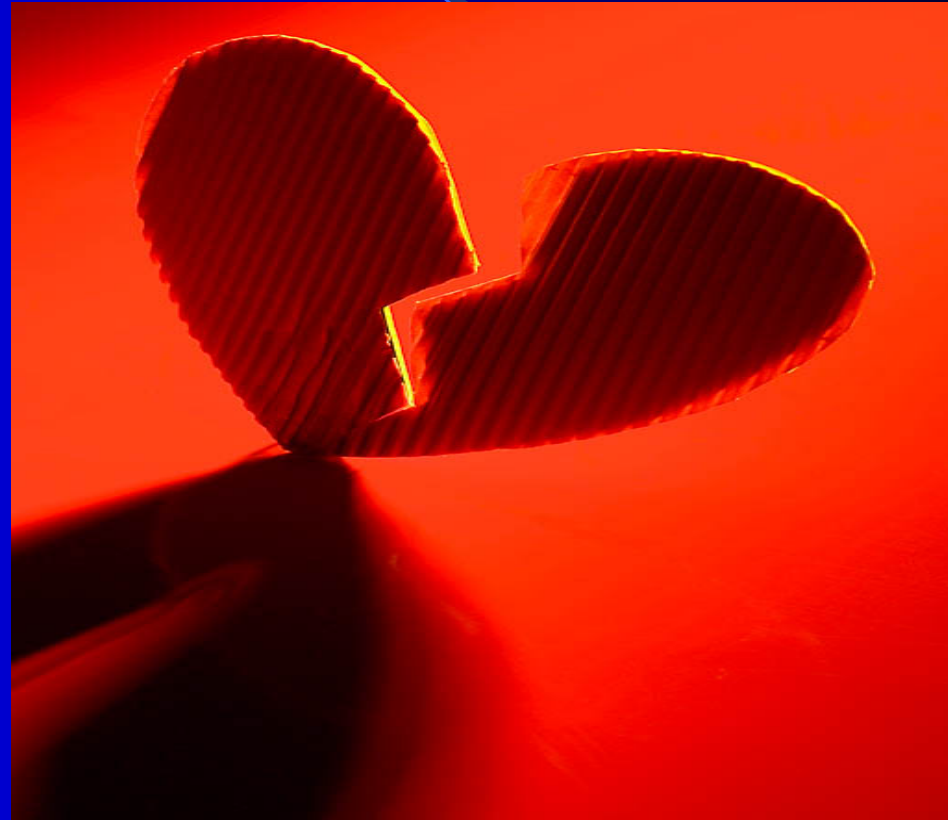
- By educating the parents on child development and their role as the first teacher
- By allowing parents to hold, sing, read, eat, talk, and laugh together with their children
- By providing guidance and feedback when the interactions get challenging

SKIP 36-Week Program Components

1. Supporting Parents as First Teachers Workshop
(7 weeks)
2. Children of Incarcerated Parents and
Incarcerated Parent-Child Relationship Classes
(7 weeks)
3. Parent-Child Interactive Play+Learn Group
(14 weeks) concurrent with caregivers training
4. Family Strengthening Support for Custodial
Parent and Caregivers
(14 weeks)

Wrinkled Heart Workshop

“For each negative a child hears, it takes five positive actions to smooth a wrinkle”



SKIP Kids



“...I thought I wouldn't like to come, but I can't wait 'til Thursday!”

What SKIP Kids' say is meaningful about the program:

“There [are] other people around my age going through the same thing as me.”

“Everything that has been going on...”

“I like talking about how we feel.”

“That there were other kids my age that I could talk to about it that had the same thing.”

“That I could talk to my facilitator and people that are close to my age.”

“Talking about things with kids my age.”

When asked if the program met their expectations, the SKIP Kids said:

“Yes...I got to share my feelings.”

“Yes because we are not the only people going through stuff.”

“Yes, because it’s very different.”

“Yes, I know that I am not the only one.”

“Yes...I’m not the only one with a mother who has done something wrong.”

SKIP Program In The News!!!!

B4 HOUSTON CHRONICLE ★★★

THE CITY & STATE

March 25, 2007

SPECIAL PRISON VISITS



HUGS: Inmate Stacey Jaime, left, visits daughters Lisa Jaime, 9, center, and Megan Vargas, 16, in January at a state jail in Dayton.

JAMES NIELSEN / CHRONICLE

Connecting children, jailed moms

Future Plans for SKIP

- Expansion of SKIP throughout Texas
- Development of SKIP for children of incarcerated juveniles
- Expansion of partnerships
- Bridging the continuity of care through education (charter schools)

Partnerships

- Texas Department of Criminal Justice
- Harris County- Precinct One
- Prairie View A & M University-College of Juvenile Justice & Psychology/Texas Juvenile Crime Prevention Center
- Will of God Technology Training Center

Partnerships

- Riverside General Hospital
- Texas Children's Pediatric Associates-Cullen
- Coalition for the Homeless of Houston/Harris County, Inc.
- Fiesta Mart
- SHAY'S House
- Childrens Protective Services