The goal of TPOPS is to work with inmates and former prisoners who are parents. We help them reconnect with their lives by offering support and referral services to agencies in their community. The sooner these parents find stability in jobs and housing, the sooner they can be involved in their children’s lives physically and emotionally and provide for their financial needs.

We are creating a network of strong community relationships. Our belief is that with the proper amount of support, each person can live a life full of potential.

TPOPS, in partnership with community resources, can be the key to providing former incarcerated parents the tools and resources to become productive members of the community and provide loving and stable homes for their children.

How Prison can Impact Families*

- There is a 34% school dropout rate for children of incarcerated parents.
- Across Tennessee, almost 20,000 children are separated from a parent due to incarceration. This is counted as a type of trauma called an Adverse Childhood Experience (ACE).
- Children with incarcerated parents are at risk of facing a variety of physical, mental, and behavioral health issues throughout the rest of their lives, as well as a higher likelihood of incarceration. These health problems may include: depression, posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD), anxiety, asthma, and migraines.
- Children with a parent in prison are more likely to suffer from a number of challenges as they become adults including: lower incomes, higher rates of being uninsured, higher rates of homelessness, and feelings of powerlessness.
- More than 20% of children who have a parent in a state prison are 4 or younger.
- Parents who are unable to maintain a connection with their child while they are in prison are more likely to experience depression, anxiety, and hopelessness, be re-incarcerated, and lose parental rights.


TPOPS helps non-custodial incarcerated parents know their rights and responsibilities and become a part of their children’s lives.
TPOPS

PROGRAM GOALS

• Reconnect parent and child whenever in the child’s best interest
• Help break the cycle of children of incarcerated parents entering prison
• Ensure that the incarcerated parent has knowledge of the responsibilities for their children’s financial well-being
• Connect re-entering parent with community resources and family advocacy services
• Help re-entering parents maintain employment
• Establish steady and long-term child support payments
• Help prevent recidivism

With your help, we can make a difference in the lives of parents and children in Tennessee.

If you are interested in learning more about TPOPS, please contact us:

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Knoxville, Tennessee 37996-4126
(865) 964-9190 or (865) 385-9582

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