

SAN FRANCISCO DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN, YOUTH & THEIR FAMILIES

San Francisco Board of Supervisors Hearing on Children of Incarcerated Parents June 19th, 2014

> Recy M Connittee - NSS 6/10/14 1 Hem #4 - 140298



THE NEED

According to DCYF's 2011 Community Needs Assessment:

- In 2010 an estimated 16,196 San Francisco children had a parent in custody at a county jail
- Parental incarceration creates challenges for children and families including: financial instability, instability in family relationships and residential mobility
- Familial incarceration also comes with shame and stigma and can lead young people to associate themselves with the labels placed on their parents



CURRENT INVESTMENTS

DCYF currently funds 2 programs that focus specifically on the children of incarcerated parents:

Program	Program Description
Community Works: ROOTS at Balboa High School	educates and support students impacted by familial incarceration through creative expression and critical thinking
Community Works: Project WHAT!	Project WHAT! (We're Here And Talking) raises awareness about the impacts of parental incarceration on children, with the long-term goal of improving services and policies that affect them



CURRENT INVESTMENTS

DCYF Youth Survey results also indicate that the children of incarcerated parents are accessing our Violence Prevention and Intervention (VPI) and Youth Workforce Development for Justice System Involved programs:

- Of the 1,350 youth surveyed from July 2012 to present, 440 or 33% answered yes to the question "have you ever had a parent in jail or prison."
- Of the 1,350 youth surveyed 180 or 13% answered yes to the question "have you had a parent in jail or prison," and have also been in Juvenile Hall or jail themselves.

CHILDREN YOUTH & THEIR FAMILIES

NEXT STEPS

- Use current Community Needs Assessment (CNA) to determine the needs of this population and incorporate findings in our Children's Services Allocation Plan (CSAP)
- Continue investing in quality services for this population
- Continue surveying program participants to better gauge the need and assess how youth are accessing programs.
- Work with our funding partners and fellow city departments to coordinate current service systems and strengthen collaborations with these partners to ensure that unmet needs can be addressed in the future