

## Mission

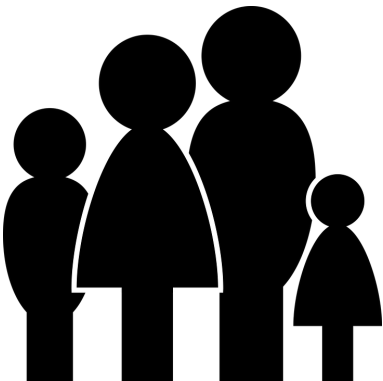
To partner with reentering parents in the development of skills and knowledge that focus on positive parenting, healthy relationships and economic stability in order for parents to create safe, stable and nurturing environments for children and families.

## Vision

We envision children living safely at home, having positive relationships with parents and care-providers, and being supported by families who have the skills and access to resources and services needed to thrive.

“Our children don't need us to be superheroes. They don't need us to be perfect. They do need us to be present. They need us to show up and give it our best shot, no matter what else is going on in our lives. They need us to show them – not just with words, but with deeds – that they, those kids, are always our first priority.”

~President Barack Obama, June 21st, 2010



## How to Apply for Strength in Families

Eligible inmates may request an application through an assigned Classification Counselor.

Family members or friends may request an application on behalf of an inmate from:

Darin Goff,  
Intake and Case Management Supervisor  
Phone: 360-725-8953  
Email: [darin.goff@doc.wa.gov](mailto:darin.goff@doc.wa.gov)

For more information, call or write:

Email: [strengthenfamilies@doc.wa.gov](mailto:strengthenfamilies@doc.wa.gov)

Carolyn House-Higgins, Program Manager  
Phone: (360) 725-8675  
Email: [Carolyn.househiggins@doc.wa.gov](mailto:Carolyn.househiggins@doc.wa.gov)

[www.doc.wa.gov/corrections/programs](http://www.doc.wa.gov/corrections/programs)

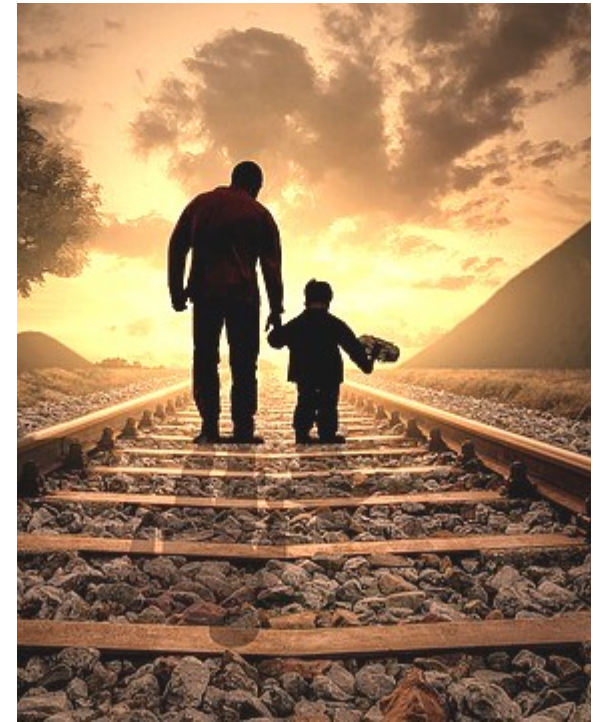
Funding for this project was provided by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Grant #90 FO 0008

Services are available to all eligible persons, regardless of race, gender, age, disability or religion.

400-BR001 (12/2017)

# Strength in Families

A program offered through the ReFORM Grant



“Working Together for Safe Communities”



## What is Strength in Families?

Research shows that children do better when their fathers are present and a positive influence in their lives. Children with involved, loving dads are more likely to do well in school, have healthy self-esteem, show empathy and pro-social behavior, and avoid high-risk behaviors like drug use, missing school, and committing crime.

The Washington State Department of Corrections has received a Responsible Fatherhood reentry grant from the U.S. Health and Human Services' Administration for Children and Families to provide a program that supports reentering parents.

The program is named Strength in Families and we focus on building skills and knowledge in the following three key areas:

- Healthy Relationships with Partners and Co-Parents
- Responsible and Positive Parenting
- Education and Employment Pathways

**Responsible  
Fatherhood  
Opportunities for  
Reentry and  
Mobility**

## What do Participants Receive?

### Parenting and Healthy Relationship Classes

Participants will take two classes pre-release: Parenting Inside Out and Walking the Line. After release the participants in committed relationships may take Seven Principles to Making a Marriage Work with their partners.

### Employment and Education Services

All participants will receive assistance from an Education & Employment Navigator to help identify a path toward self-chosen education and career goals. Participants also complete the class, Job Seeking Skills, prior to release.

### Case Management

Each participant will be assigned to a Case Manager who will begin partnering with them and their families in the facility and continue this assistance in the community. Case Managers will work with the participant to figure out their personal and family strengths and challenges as well as provide connections to community resources.



## Who is Eligible?

The program is currently in facilities in southwest Washington for participants releasing to Clark, Cowlitz, Lewis, Thurston, or Pierce Counties. Eligible participants are fathers or father figures for one or more children from birth to 24 years old; who are up to 9 months pre-release, and who are low income.

## Where is Strength in Families Offered?

Strength in Families is offered at the following facilities:

- Washington Corrections Center (WCC)
- Stafford Creek Corrections Center (SCCC)
- Cedar Creek Corrections Center (CCCC)
- Larch Corrections Center (LCC)

## Additional Information

This is a voluntary program.

Participants are required to take the following classes:

- Walking the Line
- Parenting Inside Out
- Job Seeking Skills

Participants do not receive reduced sentences.

Participants do not need to be in a partner relationship or returning to live with their children to be eligible.

Family reintegration counseling may be available.