

our mission

To provide services necessary to help children and their mothers, incarcerated at Chillicothe Correctional Center, keep the connection during periods of separation due to incarceration.

donations

Gifts of Honor

Danorah, from Honduras
Judy Henderson #81918

Memorial Gifts

Leroy C. Rodgers
Betty Colton



WEBSITE: www.chillicothepatch.org
PHONE: 1-800-284-0145
EMAIL: director@chillicothepatch.org

PATCH 2014 stats

243	PATCH visits
68	volunteers drove children or supervised visits
413	children helped to see their mothers
58%	PATCH-assisted transportation

How to donate

Honor someone special while helping children maintain connections with their mothers in prison.

In Honor of — a gift given to recognize someone for outstanding service or to celebrate a special occasion. A note will be sent to the person being honored and the name will appear in the next PATCH newsletter.

In Memory of — a gift given in memory of someone special. Memorial gifts will be listed in the next PATCH newsletter and a note will be sent to the family.



Missouri's Foundation For Child Abuse Prevention



SPRING 2015
NEWSLETTER

PATCH

PARENTS AND THEIR CHILDREN

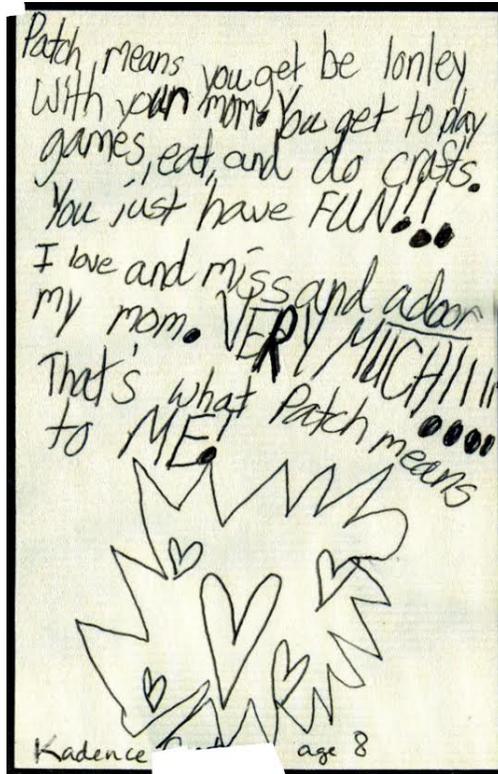
spring edition

2015

newsletter

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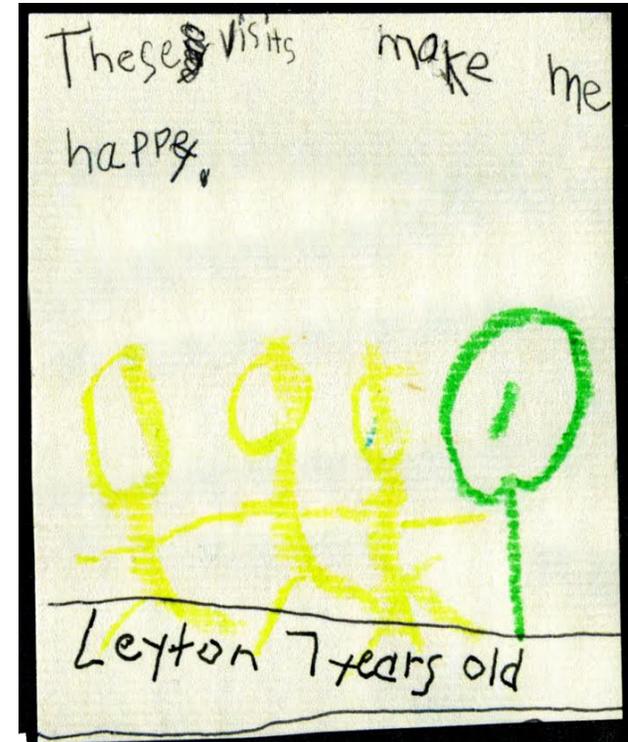
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news corner continued..

New Ways to Donate to PATCH

Support PATCH when you shop online at Amazon (AmazonSmile). PATCH is registered to receive charitable donations from the AmazonSmile program. Go to smile.amazon.com and select PATCH of Chillicothe to receive a portion of each of your purchases.



PATCH Quilt Is Scheduling Appearances

Stitches of Hope, a quilt created by incarcerated women of Chillicothe Correctional Center (CCC), under the direction of PATCH and prison staff, was recently displayed at the Child Abuse & Neglect Prevention Conference in Jefferson City. The quilt includes strips of fabric with personal statements on child abuse quilted together by offenders who are a part of the Restorative Justice class at CCC. Drawings created by PATCH children are also included in the quilt. The quilt has been displayed at the Missouri Department of Corrections offices in Jefferson City and in Chillicothe for the annual Crime Victims Week ceremony. Contact PATCH to arrange a showing of *Stitches of Hope*.



NEW! PATCH Video

See the PATCH visiting rooms and hear from children, incarcerated mothers and one grandmother about their experience with PATCH. Hear why the PATCH visiting experience is important to them and how it helps them cope with the separation. Contact PATCH director@chillicothepatch.org to arrange a time to show this 12 minute video (DVD) to your group.

"Mom, there's no TV and they won't let me have my phone!" These were among the first words heard from a 14 year-old girl having her first PATCH visit recently. What 14 year-old thinks they can be without electronics these days? Because these items are not allowed in PATCH visiting rooms, teens are introduced to "old-fashioned" practices such as conversation and eventually eye contact. Separation of family members during incarceration presents challenges in communication. Reconnection can begin with a board game that turns into a real conversation. Sometimes combing and braiding hair can set the stage or playing basketball can open the doors to connection. Teens have hard questions; moms need to give real answers. Moms feel a loss of control; children can feel abandoned. Communication is difficult and sometimes comes out sideways. In PATCH parenting classes, incarcerated mothers learn how to respond with compassion rather than an impulsive reaction – a foundation for real connection and authentic conversation.



PATCH makes a difference for kids

Isiah (right) speaks to a group about visiting his mother at Chillicothe Correctional Center. He explains how PATCH has provided a way for him to keep the connection with his mother while they are separated.



During a PATCH program presented to Rotary Club members in the Kansas City (Liberty) area, 16 year old Isiah described the experience of visiting his mother in PATCH visiting rooms at Chillicothe Correctional Center. He explained, “At PATCH visits, I’m able to really talk to my mother, to have a more “intimate (personal) moment” without all the other people around. I feel like the PATCH people care about me and my mother. My family can’t always bring me (for visits), but, with PATCH, I can come more often.” PATCH provides transportation for children who need rides.

He was asked how PATCH visits have changed him. He replied, “When my mom went to prison, I was 10 years old. I was mad at her, I was mad at myself, I felt guilty. Before PATCH, I didn’t like visiting because I had to be behind glass. In other visits there were so many people, I had to shout for her to hear me. With PATCH, we have our own room. It feels different. We can talk and it’s better. I like to come and see her. I want to know her and I want her to know me.”

With the support and cooperation of Chillicothe Correctional

Center administration and staff, PATCH coordinates “more private” in-person visits for incarcerated mothers and their children. Incarcerated mothers and their children may have a four-hour supervised visit in one of the PATCH visiting rooms. The visiting rules are more relaxed in the PATCH visiting area. Hugs are not restricted as they are in the general visiting room for children over six years. Offender mothers may hold and comfort their children of any age. Visits are supervised by PATCH staff and trained volunteers, not officers in uniforms. Without the noise level and distractions of numbers of other visitors in the same room (as in the general prison visiting room), talking and listening and focusing on each other comes easier. Children feel more comfortable visiting in a room that looks more like a home. They feel more hopeful about the future. Incarcerated mothers rebuild trust that has been broken with their children. They feel hopeful about returning to their family.

Incarcerated mothers are required to take parenting classes and attend support group to earn PATCH visits.

PATCH makes a difference for mothers...

Recidivism rate for Female Offenders released 2010-2014 who participated in PATCH classes and visits

21.1%

Recidivism rate for Female Offenders released 2010-2014 who did not participate in PATCH

34.9%