

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

Judy Henderson, #081918,
Chillicothe Correctional Center

Memorial Gifts

Harriet Kloud, the very first
Executive Director of PATCH
at Renz Correctional Facility in
Jefferson City



WEBSITE: www.chillicothepatch.org

PHONE: 1-800-284-0145

EMAIL: director@chillicothepatch.org

PATCH ytd stats

290	PATCH visits
70	volunteers drove children or supervised visits
522	children helped to see their mothers
48%	PATCH-assisted transportation



You can help prevent child abuse by proudly displaying the official Children's Trust Fund (CTF) license plate on your vehicle. CTF plates feature the distinctive child's green hand prints logo & a 'prevent child abuse' message. To find out how to get yours, visit:

<http://ctf4kids.org/how-you-can-help/license-plates>



Missouri's Foundation For Child Abuse Prevention



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I love seeing my mother every time at Patch, it's trully more than a visit, it's a moment that will last forever in my memory, every hug, every game, every second I have with my mom makes me feel that you trully care about us, and every time it happens it brings a smile to my face. That's what Patch Visits mean to me.
William, 15

PATCH helps overcome

Helping Incarcerated Mothers Respond to Children's Strong Emotions

"I don't have any friends"

"My teacher hates me"

When children make strong statements like these, the response they receive from their parents is key. This is a real challenge for incarcerated mothers who have no real control.

The truth is that children aren't always able to tell an adult how they feel. They often use words that hurt or shock, but aren't related to the real cause of their feelings. Mothers may misinterpret how their child expresses his/her feelings. They can be so consumed with their own intense feelings regarding being incarcerated and separated from their children that they fail to focus on how their children are experiencing these changes and adjustments.

"Understanding Children's Strong Emotions" is one in the series of ten parenting classes taught to incarcerated mothers in PATCH.

Moms are taught that they need to listen with their eyes as well as their ears during time together. They are cautioned not to overreact to their children's behavior or strong words. When the child "opens the door" with actions or words, moms should respond with actions and words that keep the door open. This way, the cause of the behavior or strong statements can be discovered and discussed.

PATCH encourages moms not to judge or try to solve the problem, just respond to the child's feelings. Help the child discover and identify their feelings. All feelings are okay.

We often discover that "I don't have any friends" can mean "I miss you." Falling grades and behavior issues at school can be caused by anger and resentment toward the incarcerated mother.

PATCH moms have found that using "open door statements and questions" to be one of the skills that has helped them the most in conversations with their children.

PATCH mom's perspective

A Note from Anissa

9/12/16

I started Patch thinking about how good it would be to have a visit that would be just my son and myself. What I got was that and so much more.

First, is the parenting classes that are required before a visit can be obtained. In those classes I learned how to be a better parent, but most important I learned how to deal with mine and my child's emotional instability caused by my mistakes and incarceration.

Secondly, the visits. We are in a child friendly environment where we can hug, take our shoes off and roll around on the rug while playing games. My son was so happy to be able to tell me his concerns, and not have to tell anybody else what we talked about. I was able to reassure him that my mistakes are not his fault, and that I love him and am extremely proud of him. I could get down on his level, look him in the eye and talk to him. Then give him time to think and respond. I learned so much about him in those four hour visits. When I stop and think about it, how often does any parent have four hours at one time to stop, play and talk to their child? My son absolutely loved coming to Patch visits. I thank all the people involved. Without them my son and I would not have had the opportunity to learn that even when someone makes mistakes, we can find a way to learn from them, grow stronger, and more emotionally secure.

The final and most important thing I learned is that my son can build anything using blocks, Legos, sticks and most important, LOVE.

poem for mom

For Mom

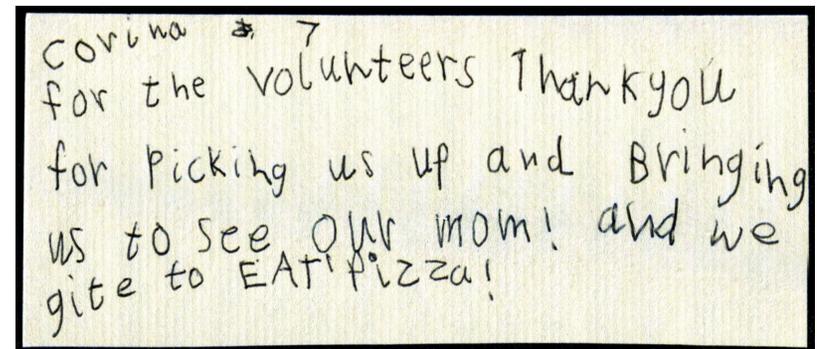
Mom, you're in prison so far, far away
and it hurts me almost every day
I knew when I was there
it was coming to an end
I knew I should've done something
right there and then.
Mom, you're in prison so far, far away
you can't even be a part of my life today.
as I go through boyfriends and do other things
you won't be there to call
when me and my dad are
yelling names, cussing at each other,
and he's putting me to shame because
I did some of those bad teenage things.
mom, you're in prison so far, far away
I wonder, when you get out
will things be the same
will you be the mom that I know or
will you be someone else 'cause
Prison changed your soul.
I don't understand the reason for this
going to prison for drugs when in
there it's a bigger mess.
it's like taking a drunk to a bar
and expecting him to sober up
when you know he's just
gonna get more messed up.
Mom, you're in prison so far, far away
when you get out I guess I will see

the answers to the question I have today

but for right now I will just continue to pray
and hope for the best until that day.
I still love you and will write you too
please don't forget about me because
I will always care and miss you
Mom, you're in prison so far, far away
while I sit here, tears running down my face
hoping everything will fall into place
I will never forget the time we had
and try to be brave and not be sad
mom, I know it's hard and you got a lot on your plate
but remember there's people willing to wait.
Mom, you're in prison so far, far away
you got 3 kids and parents too
that haven't given up on you
you got another chance to make it right
so continue the fight of the battle you've got
to make it back to the ones you love!

- by Bailee, age 14

an interview with Bailee is featured in a new PATCH video



Corina # 7
for the volunteers Thankyou
for picking us up and bringing
us to see OUR MOM! and we
gite to EAT PIZZA!

meet a PATCH kid



Meet Brynn

Brynn, age 10, began PATCH visits with her mother four and a half years ago. Her mother explains that having her young daughter come into a prison for visits concerned her. The general visiting room was full of offenders and visitors. It was loud and all of the noise seemed to overwhelm her daughter. She is grateful for PATCH and PATCH

visits where her daughter is more comfortable and relaxed. Brynn says she likes to visit her mom in the PATCH room because "it's more colorful and not as loud". She says, "PATCH is good for kids because you worry about your mom when you're not with her, but when you get to see her one-on-one, those worries go WHOOSH!!"

Brynn is a frequent visitor in the PATCH room. Her mother is a former president of the PATCH Offender Organization. Brynn and her mother appear in the PATCH video available at www.chillicothepatch.org.

Update: Brynn's mother was released from Chillicothe Correctional Center earlier this year.

news corner

PATCH MOMS ARE SHOWING LOWER RECIDIVISM RATE THAN OTHER OFFENDERS

According to MODOC reports, the recidivism rate for females who have participated in PATCH is 25.5%. The recidivism rate for other females with dependents in the general prison population at CCC is 37.2%. Recidivism is the percent of offenders released from prison from July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2014, who have returned to prison within two years of release.

NEW PATCH
WEBSITE COMING
SOON

Visit www.chillicothepatch.org to see our new design!!

