

## Olmsted County Adult Detention Center (ADC): Enhancing Protective Factors and Preventing and Addressing ACEs

This case study is about one of the Preventing Adverse Childhood Experiences (PACEs) efforts in the Adult Detention Center in Olmsted County. It is intended to supplement the Olmsted County ADC PACEs community video (2023) linked with the MDH PACEs data dashboard.

Parental incarceration is one of the most common adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) for youth in Minnesota. According to the Minnesota Student Survey, 17% of youth have a parent who is currently incarcerated or has previously been incarcerated.

In 2019, six county jails in Minnesota (Carlton, Olmsted, Ramsey, Renville, Stearns, and Sherburne Counties) came together to form the Minnesota Model Jail Practices Learning Community. This learning community works to identify new ways to support incarcerated parents and their children. It works to (1) improve relationships between incarcerated parents and their children, (2) reduce recidivism, (3) increase child well-being, and (4) improve public safety.

As part of this effort, Olmsted County's ADC is working to help support incarcerated parents maintain relationships with their children while incarcerated. They do this by supporting consistent communication through free onsite video calls and providing a clean and welcoming place for children and family members to visit incarcerated parents. The Olmsted ADC, along with Olmsted County Public Health and Olmsted County Community Corrections, also supports families through the evidence-based Parenting Inside Out program. This program uses a cognitive-behavioral approach to educate and help parents build parenting skills that are useful while incarcerated and after they are released. Skills center around (1) communication between the parent and child, (2) problem-solving, (3) monitoring, (4) positive reinforcement, and (5) non-violent discipline techniques.

In addition to supporting parents, the Olmsted County ADC partners with Olmsted County Public Health, Olmsted County Probation, and the Rochester Public School District to help fill the gaps in supporting youth who have an incarcerated parent. Olmsted County along with other counties in the learning community are committed to working to ensure that jail staff and partners working with incarcerated parents are educated about child protection requirements, the Parenting Inside Out program is made available to parents on parole and in the community, the schools are aware when youth have a parent who is incarcerated, and more.

Visit [www.health.state.mn.us/communities/mentalhealth/jail.html](http://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/mentalhealth/jail.html) to learn more about what Olmsted County Corrections is doing to prevent and address ACEs.

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