



The Children of Incarcerated Parents (CIP) Initiative began in SFY18 through funding provided by the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS) to the Mansfield Urban Minority Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Outreach Program (UMADAOP) on behalf of the Federation of UMADAOPs, and to Ohio University’s Voinovich School for Leadership and Public Service for evaluation, to support integration of best practice prevention approaches into Ohio’s reentry system. The CIP Initiative began by strategically building the reentry workforce capacity through a series of trainings that certified reentry professionals across the state in the evidence-based prevention intervention, Creating Lasting Family Connections (CLFC). CLFC is a cognitive behavioral program. Such programs implemented in prisons, with follow-through in the community after release, have been shown to be particularly effective in reducing substance abuse and recidivism. The CIP Initiative continues to build capacity through trainings and provides support to organizations implementing the program through a variety of technical assistance opportunities.

Impacting the Lives of Children with Incarcerated Parents

129 Participants completed a pre- and post-survey evaluation

414 Estimated number of children impacted

Participation in the CLFC program promotes healthy family reintegration, improves the quality of family relationships, and provides opportunities for positive development of youth with previously incarcerated parents.

According to the surveys completed by program participants, a quarter (25%) reported having their first child between ages 14 and 18. This, combined with factors such as income, employment challenges, etc., shows the potential vulnerability of participants and their children. The relationship skills that participants in the program gain have the potential to impact relationships with at least 414 children based on survey items that asked about the number of children they had in the home (211) and outside the home (203) prior to incarceration.

ODRC Institutions Served in FFY21-23

Dayton
Correctional
(DCI)

11 Cohorts
Evaluated

Mansfield
Correctional
(MANCI)

2 Cohorts
Evaluated

Richland
Correctional
(RICI)

6 Cohorts
Evaluated

COMBINED NUMBERS

19 Cohorts
Evaluated

3 ODRC
Institutions

The CIP Initiative is evaluated through a partnership between Ohio University’s Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Service and the Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation (PIRE). The evaluation team developed and implemented a streamlined system for surveying participants before and after the program, analyzing the results, and producing reports. The evaluation was approved under the Ohio University OHRP Federal wide Assurance #00000095; IRB Approval #17-N-79 and was approved by the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction.

Using this evaluation system, the evaluation team produces the following reports on a yearly basis:

1. A report for each cohort or group that completed the program
2. A report for each institution showing the combined results for all completed cohorts within that institution
3. A combined report for all participants across all institutions

Demographics of Participants

	Count	%
Female	73	57%
Male	56	43%

	Count	%
Asian	2	2%
Black/African American	63	50%
White	53	42%
Other	8	6%

The survey instrument is a standard evaluation instrument for the CLFC. The survey consists of 71 items inquiring about relationship skills acquired through participation in the program. These items form nine scales assessing relationship skills.

Our evaluation shows statistically significant improvement in 9 different relationship skills.

- Communication Skills*
- Conflict Resolution Skills*
- Intrapersonal Skills*
- Emotional Awareness Skills*
- Emotional Expression Skills*
- Interpersonal Skills*
- Relationship Management Skills*
- Relationship Satisfaction*
- Relationship Commitment*

*p < 0.01

For more information on the Ohio CIP Initiative or to find a training or host a training for your organization, visit ohiocip.org.

