BENEFITS OF 4-H LIFE

Children
- Are excited about the 4-H Club and regular, enhanced visits with their incarcerated parent
- Build their communication and leadership skills
- See their incarcerated parent in a positive leadership role

Caregivers
- Meet other caregivers who are experiencing similar situations
- See their incarcerated family member interact with the child in a variety of healthy and structured activities

Incarcerated Parents
- Talk more about family issues with others
- Serve as role models within the context of the program activities
- Practice new parenting skills

http://extension.missouri.edu/fcrp/

4-H LIFE is a partnership with the University of Missouri Extension, the Missouri Department of Corrections, and the National Children, Youth and Families at Risk (CYFAR) Initiative.
ABOUT 4-H LIFE

The 4-H Living Interactive Family Education (LIFE) is a family strengthening program to address the needs of children of incarcerated parents or other incarcerated family members. It was designed to provide a strong, healthy and nurturing family environment during scheduled visitations at the correctional center using the 4-H Club model.

WHAT 4-H LIFE OFFERS

4-H Club Meetings
The 4-H Club meeting takes place during visiting hours at the correctional center in a family friendly atmosphere. The incarcerated parents serve as leaders and their children are enrolled as 4-H members. Meetings include traditional 4-H Club activities, leadership opportunities and family recreation.

Planning Meetings
The incarcerated parents have a monthly meeting to make plans for the upcoming 4-H Club meeting to select topics, activities and address family needs or concerns.

Parenting Skills Classes
Incarcerated parents must currently attend or be a graduate of a parenting class at the correctional center to be in the 4-H LIFE program.

WHAT PARTICIPANTS SAY

“I have fun with my dad. This program helps me have a better relationship with my dad. There are lots of fun activities to do as a family and we get to know other people in our 4-H club.”

~ Zack, youth

“The situation in the (traditional) visiting room is very structured and very restricted. (The 4-H LIFE program) is a chance for my husband and his grandson to interact better and to actually be a family together.”

~ Edna, Step-Grandmother

“It gives you a chance to get to know your kids better and to help them to try and not make the same mistakes that you did and maybe wind up in a place like this.”

~ Scott, Father, 4-H LIFE Charter Member

“The 4-H LIFE Program has created a place for me to be with my family like a normal family.”

~ youth

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE PART OF 4-H LIFE?

Complete this form for more information.

Name
Address
City, State, Zip
E-mail
Phone

Check all that apply:

- I want more information about 4-H LIFE.
- I want to volunteer with 4-H LIFE.
- I want to participate in 4-H LIFE.

I am...

- a caregiver (raising the child of an incarcerated parent or other incarcerated family member).
- an incarcerated parent or other incarcerated family member.
- other __________________________

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