



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.

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI
 Extension

CYFAR Children, Youth and Families At Risk Program



A 4-H Program
for Children
with Incarcerated
Family Members

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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