

Guide to Jumpstart your Partnership with a Corrections Facility

Who are contacts, contributors, and community members who might have valuable input in a partnership with your local correctional institution?

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How could this partnership support your mission?

In conversation with families impacted by incarcerations, people who are formerly incarcerated, and with your local correctional facility, what are the main issues that you hope to address? (examples include: families show signs of stress during visitation, families are not attending visitations, children are not able to participate during visitation, high recidivism rates)

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What are the concrete goals of partnership with your local correctional institution? (examples include: increase family visitations, decrease the stress of family visitations, increase morale of people in custody through family visitations)

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What can your museum or educational institution provide to address these goals? What are the strengths of your organization that can support this partnership? (examples include: your safe exhibit spaces, trained staff for family programming, existing materials and interactives to improve the visitation experience, existing funding)

What kind of additional funding would this partnership need? Budgetary items might include staffing, catering, transportation, materials and supplies, or revenue loss from space closure.

How might you measure the impact of the programming? (examples include surveys/evaluation questions, filming and coding behavior, long term contact)

What other materials or background information can you use to advocate for this program at your institution, both with your board and with your partners? (examples include PDFs with background research or models, a contact with prior experience or familiarity with government agencies)

What else do you need to make a partnership work? (examples include outside evaluation or research help, social worker buy in and participation, professional development for staff)
