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(810) 282.1199

Mailing address:

P.O. Box 311109

Flint, MI 48531

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3010 S. Dye Rd.

Flint, MI 48507

Website:

” www.unlocktheirfuture.org

“Unlocking The Future”

**for the children of incarcerated
mothers and fathers of
Flint (Genesee County) MI**

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed, citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.”

Margaret Mead

February 20, 2019

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University of Michigan - Flint
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Shirley Cochran

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Dear Valued Community Member,

Every child deserves to feel valued and dream of a bright future. But some children have more obstacles to overcome than others to achieve success.

For nearly 20 years, Motherly Intercession has existed to support, educate and empower area children whose mother or father is, or has been, incarcerated in Genesee County Jail.

We are very proud of the positive impact Motherly Intercession has made to improve the quality of life in this community and excited to share our goals for the future.

Meeting with influencers such as you throughout the Greater Flint community would advance our organization's goal to raise awareness of our work and help more area children. We would appreciate the opportunity for one of our representatives to meet with you for a brief discussion on how Motherly Intercession and the community at large can work together to "Unlock The Future" and break the cycle of intergenerational incarceration among this very troubled population of children.

To respect your time, our discussion will not exceed 30 minutes. To respond to this invitation, please contact Shirley Cochran by calling (810) 282-1199. Thank you for considering this invitation to meet and help to strengthen community connections.

Sincerely,

Henry Tidwell
Captain Jason Gould

Ellen Peter
Shirley Cochran

Our mission

Please visit <https://youtu.be/f17fRWVbYuw> online for our visual Mission Statement.



Is to break the cycle of intergenerational incarceration, and help to save the lives of innocent children whose mother or father is currently, or was previously, incarcerated.

Our vision

Is for the children of incarcerated parents to realize their parent's destiny ... does not have to be their destiny, and strive to chart a successful career path for themselves.



Disclaimer

It is not the intent of our Executive Board of Directors, Advisory Board, Donors, Staff nor Volunteers to diminish the impact that the crimes committed by the incarcerated parent has made on other families, local businesses or our community as a whole. We DO NOT condone any action that does not fall within the guidelines of the law!



**"Motherly Intercession is the best.
I mean the best place in the world.
Not anything can stop it."**

Damarion, 10 year old RACS+ student.



Historical Background

Motherly Intercession was founded as a grassroots organization in 1999 when Shirley Cochran and six members of the community committed to organizing a meaningful service project in the Genesee County Jail for children whose incarcerated mother would not be home with them for Christmas. Since then, this work has been a labor of love for Shirley who has filled the Executive Director's position for the for the past 20 years and received no monetary compensation for her efforts during the first ten years.

The organization received its temporary 501C (3) status in 2001 and evolved to a formal nonprofit after receiving its' permanent 501 C (3) April 20, 2006. For nearly 20 years, Motherly Intercession has continued to provide a wealth of wrap around programs and services both in the Genesee County Jail and at its facility located at 3010 S. Dye Rd. – Flint, MI 48507. To date, the organization and Shirley has received 21 awards and acknowledgements for its work in the Genesee County community.

Motherly Intercession 's Empirically Validated Program Model was created and formerly evaluated during a two-year (2009 – 2011) research project in collaboration with Dr. Alison Miller Ph. D, and the University of Michigan - Ann Arbor School of Public Health. The project was funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH), and the Michigan Institute for Clinical & Health Research (MICHR).

The program model is unique, innovative, and takes a very comprehensive approach to responding to the needs of this population of children, their incarcerated parents and alternate caregivers.

Why these children?



“Failure to provide these children the love, support, guidance and opportunity for success they need; Is nurturing the next generation of incarcerated parents! ”

Shirley Cochran

A jail or prison sentence for a mother or father is, by extension, punishment for their children.

Impact on the children.



Through no fault of their own, these children are left behind to cope with the negative consequences of;

- Losing their parent(s) to incarceration.
- Having their health and lives placed at risk by the Flint Water Crisis.
- Living in generational poverty.
- Living in communities and homes where drugs, crime, violence, incarceration and even death are an accepted part of life.
- Constantly experiencing home instability and shifts in caregivers, which in many cases; results in new schools, loss of friends and familiar surroundings.
- Becoming victims of, or being placed at risk for, sexual and emotional abuse, and neglect.

Our Proven Success



Jameshia (Ms. J) came to Motherly Intercession at the young age of 13 years old. Her mother, who was her primary caregiver suddenly passed when she was 16. She was the first of Motherly Intercession's Reading and Counting to Success (RACS) program students to graduate from high school. In May of 2014, she reached her first professional goal by

graduating from Mott Community College with two Associate's Degrees. She continued her employment at Motherly Intercession as a Peer Mentor while she continued her studies at the University of Michigan – Flint in pursuit of a Bachelor's Degree in Social Work. Today, she has acquired a Master's Degree in Social Work and is gainfully employed in the Flint community.

Jameshia attributes much of her success and professional achievements to the wrap around support that she received from Motherly Intercession during her fundamental teenage years. "The resources, services and support that Motherly Intercession provides work wonders in people's lives. I am a living testament."

Jameshia

RACS+ Academic Success

Student Academic Growth Outcomes for the 2017—18 school year

Percent of students who increased in Reading:

82% - increased grade equivalency

46% - increased 1 grade level

14% - increased 2 grade levels

Percent of students who increased in Math:

79% - increased grade equivalency

29% - increased 1 grade level

4% - increased 2 grade levels



Our Programs at Motherly Intercession



Reading And Counting to Success PLUS (RACS+) Afterschool Tutorial Program

Our **RACS+** program is a high-quality, innovative, **Tutoring, Coaching** and **Mentoring** afterschool program that offers homework assistance, tutoring in reading, math, computer lab access four evenings per week throughout the traditional school year and a Summer Day Camp. The primary focus for RACS+ is to;

- Improve academic performance in the traditional classroom.
- Increase graduation rates and decreasing dropout rates.
- Increase enrollment in post-secondary education or career preparation.

3-2-5 School Readiness (3-2-5)

3-**2**-5 is a sub component of the RACS+ program. This program focuses on school readiness preparation social skills, pre-literacy, and numeracy.

N-Touch Ready to Work (NTRTW) Job & Life Skills Training.

The primary focus of this program is to reduce the risk of criminal activity among youth by providing them access to job and life skills training and opportunities for a “first job experience.”

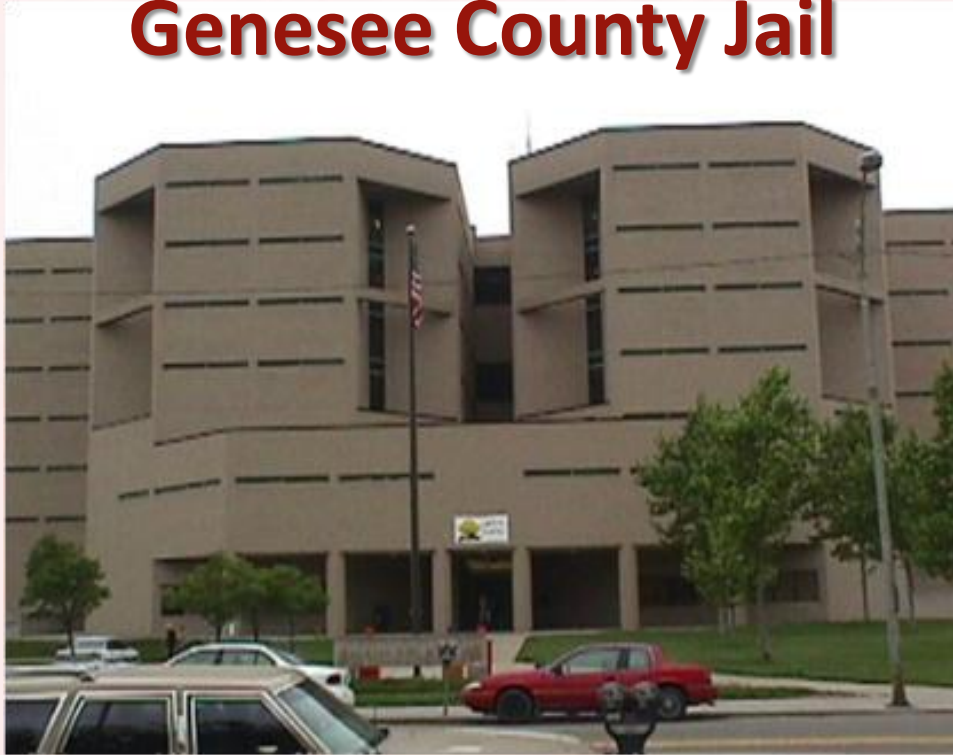
Strengthening Incarcerated Families (SIF)

SIF is an empirically validated program that focuses on helping the entire family to reduce their levels of incarcerated related stress.

Resiliency Support Group

Resiliency is a self-help support group which offers mothers, fathers and alternate caregivers a means of receiving and sharing mutual support that enables them to build the resiliency they need to face the challenges they face daily.

Our Programs in the Genesee County Jail



Bonding From A Distance Children's Visitation Program (B-FAD)

B-FAD the children a means of maintaining a healthy, loving relationship with their incarcerated mother during the period of separation by providing bi-monthly visitation in the jail.

Parenting While Incarcerated (PWI)

PWI is a weekly parenting class that are offered to incarcerated mothers in jail setting.

Mom 2 Mom (M2M)

M2M is a weekly faith based, self improvement mentoring class that is offered to incarcerated mothers in jail setting.

Healthcare Coverage Awareness and Referrals

In collaboration with the Genesee Health Plan, Motherly Intercession increase awareness of healthcare coverage programs and services that are available to incarcerated families of Genesee County through the Ensuring Successful Return Program.

Other Services Provided



Van Transportation

Two vans are utilized to provide client transportation to academic support sessions and other program activities.

Estimated Annual Cost = \$20,000



Meals

Healthy lead mitigating meals are served to the children prior to each tutorial session four evenings per week and a lunch meal is served during the bi-monthly N-Touch Ready To Work training sessions.

Estimated Annual Cost = 15,000.00



E Learning Computer Lab:

Ensuring children have access to technology.
We have need for a technical upgrade which includes equipment, networking and technical support.

Estimated Cost: \$10,000



Please Help Us “Unlock their Future”!



*“12,610 inmates were booked into the
Genesee County Jail and Lockup in 2018.”*

Genesee County Jail

The negative impact of incarceration is not limited to those who have experienced it personally. Incarceration is a problem that negatively impacts the quality of life for the entire community! During the 1960s, Flint was home to high paying manufacturing jobs at several General Motors factories. Since then the city has suffered from the loss of thousands of GM jobs. The loss of employment in the city resulted in extremely high levels of financial instability which has caused an increase in criminal activities in Genesee County and the surrounding areas.

There is a direct correlation between the number of incarcerated parents and the number of children who are left behind to cope with the negative impact of parental incarceration because increased criminal activity results in an increase in the number of children who are left behind by incarcerated mothers and fathers of this community. While struggling with high levels of unemployment, increased crime and violence, Flint suffered another devastating set back in 2014 by the water crisis which placed Genesee County children's physical, mental health, and academic development at tremendous risk.



*Investing in these children will improve
their chance for success and help to prevent
them from falling victim to the cycle of
intergenerational incarceration.*

Volunteer





2019 — “Unlocking the Future” Donation Pledge Card

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ St.: _____ Zip: _____

Email Address: _____ @ _____ . _____

☐ I pledge to make a tax deductible gift in the amount that is selected below.

Please bill me: ☐ Monthly

☐ Quarterly ☐ Annually

☐ \$1,000.00

☐ \$ 500.00

☐ \$ 250.00

☐ \$ 100.00

☐ \$ 50.00

☐ Other Amount: \$ _____.

☐ Enclosed, you will find my gift in the amount of: \$ _____ Check # _____

☐ I will visit www.unlocktheirfuture.org and make a donation in the amount of \$ _____.

Motherly Intercession is a 501C (3) compliant tax exempt nonprofit organization.



Contact us:

Shirley Cochran, Executive Director and Founder

Cell Phone: (810) 282.1199

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Please help Motherly Intercession to

“Unlock the Future”

for this very vulnerable population of children.

