



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Administration for Children and Families
Office of Family Assistance



National Responsible Fatherhood Clearinghouse

NRFC Webinar – February 6, 2019

Working with Fathers after Incarceration: Tips from Research and Practice

Presenter Bios

Darin Goff, Program Manager, Strength in Families, Washington State Department of Corrections



Darin has worked with Washington State Department of Corrections for 30 years. In that time, he has supervised a wide range of departments and programs, worked with male and female offenders at all custody levels, supervised a Minimum Custody Living Unit, facilitated a Family Advisory Committee, and developed several reentry and family re-unification programs. He has been with the Department's Strength in Families (SIF) program since October 2016 and was promoted to Program Manager in October 2018. The SIF program is supported by a Responsible Fatherhood Opportunities for Reentry and Mobility (ReFORM) grant from the federal Office of Family Assistance. Prior to his current position, Darin worked at the Washington Correction Center for Women for 13 years and the Monroe Correctional Complex for 15 years. He received a Governor's award for collaboration (Girl Scouts Beyond Bars) and has also worked as a professional climbing guide, leading expeditions to some of the world's biggest mountains for Rainier Mountaineering Inc.

Jocelyn Fontaine, Senior Research Fellow, Justice Policy Center, Urban Institute and Adjunct Assistant Professor, McCourt School of Public Policy, Georgetown University



Jocelyn is committed to using rigorous social science methods to change policy and practice and contribute to the public discourse on crime and the criminal justice system. Her research portfolio mostly focuses on evaluating community-based crime reduction and reentry initiatives. She directs projects using quantitative and qualitative research methodologies to explore the impact of community-based initiatives on outcomes for the individual, family and social networks, and the community. She has extensive experience developing survey instruments, facilitating focus groups, managing fieldwork in diverse settings, conducting stakeholder interviews, interfacing with public officials and program administrators, and translating evidence-based and promising practices into program implementation. Before joining Urban, Jocelyn worked on corrections issues under the Pew Charitable Trust's Public Safety Performance Project and served as a research assistant on violence and victimization issues for the Office of Research and Evaluation at the

National Institute of Justice (US Department of Justice). She received her PhD in justice and public policy from the School of Public Affairs at the American University.

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Daee McKnight, Program Manager, Young Fathers Reentry Program, Family Reentry, Bridgeport, CT

Daee has been with Family Reentry for nine years. He prepares offenders for successful reentry from Connecticut correctional institutions through pre-release and fatherhood groups. On release, program participants are connected to community mentors who are themselves successful ex-offenders. Prior to his current position, he worked as a Violence Prevention Coordinator for the YMCA, served as a mentor for ex-offenders and local youth, and coordinated gang awareness “youth at risk” workshops for Save Our Babies. He also serves as a motivational speaker and community activist and has made numerous public presentations throughout Connecticut. As a former offender who served 17 ½ years on a 25-year sentence, Daee is very familiar with the “internal” and “external” obstacles faced by offenders upon release. While in prison, he was inspired and awakened mentally and spiritually, which led him to begin his personal journey of transformation. He now has an Associate’s degree from

Asnuntuck Community College, is working on completion of his Bachelor’s degree in Psychology, and has received various awards, including the Save Our Babies award (2008), the Department of Corrections Volunteer Service Award for Positive Role Model (2009), and the Matt Jones Foundation Humanitarian of the Year Award (2011). Daee is a devoted husband, father, homeowner, tax payer, and a positive role model for his community and society. He believes in giving back and is doing all that is possible to make a down payment on a debt he owes to his community and society.