In the past three decades, the US has seen a more than 600% increase in the number of women in prison. A majority of these women are of childbearing age and mothers of minor children, and one in every 20 women who enter prison in Minnesota is pregnant. **Incarcerated women and their children have complex health risks, yet addressing these risks presents new challenges for corrections systems and public health professionals.**

These resources are available on the Center for Leadership Education in Maternal and Child Public Health’s website: [www.epi.umn.edu/mch/incarceration](http://www.epi.umn.edu/mch/incarceration)

### Videos

**Incarcerated & Pregnant: Promoting the Health of Mothers and Babies (7 minutes)**

This brief video illustrates the effects of prison and jail environments on pregnant women, innovative efforts supporting the health of women and their babies, and research and practice insights on supporting health and wellbeing of mothers and their children affected by incarceration. This video was created through a collaboration with the UMN’s Children, Youth & Family Consortium. [http://z.umn.edu/incmch](http://z.umn.edu/incmch)

**Interdisciplinary Institute on the Reproductive Health of Incarcerated Women in Minnesota** is available on our YouTube channel [http://z.umn.edu/mchtube](http://z.umn.edu/mchtube). Talks include:

- Preconception and Prenatal Health
- Pregnancy and Parenting Support for Women in Prison
- Prison and Community Supports for Optimum Outcomes
- Intervening with Pregnant Women Incarcerated at Jail
- Experiences from the Field panel discussion
- Remarks from Minnesota Health Commissioner Dr. Ed Ehlinger

**Incarcerated Mothers: A View into Public Health Challenges (1 hour, 31 minutes)**

In this Webex recording, Rebecca Shlafer, PhD, UMN MPH student discusses mass incarceration as a public health challenge. She discusses her research with incarcerated women and their children, highlighting her partnership with the Minnesota Prison Doula Project, and summarizes Minnesota’s recent legislation on the care and treatment of pregnant incarcerated women. [http://z.umn.edu/artiscishlaf](http://z.umn.edu/artiscishlaf)

### Publications

**Incarceration & Public Health**

This publication features local and national experts and covers a wide range of topics such as the health of incarcerated individuals, legislation in the US and Minnesota, health care for pregnant incarcerated women, prison nurseries, pregnancy and parenting support for women in prison, conducting research in prison settings, working with incarcerated individuals, mandatory pregnancy testing of incarcerated women, and much more.

Our **Incarcerated Women Brief** contains a two-page executive summary of this volume. [http://z.umn.edu/incbrief](http://z.umn.edu/incbrief)
### Report: The Legislative Advisory Committee on the Care of Pregnant Incarcerated Women (37 pages)

A group of key stakeholders from corrections, health, human services, and community organizations met, at the request of the Minnesota Legislature, to review the existing correctional standards for incarcerated pregnant and postpartum women and make recommendations for the 2015/2016 legislative session. This report to the legislature documents the committee’s history, work, and recommendations. [http://z.umn.edu/inclegreport](http://z.umn.edu/inclegreport)

### Family Impact Analysis: Housed Out of Facility (HOF) (2 pages)

A Family Impact Analysis is one approach to examining policies with the goal of understanding the policy’s impact on families. This Analysis of HOF—a strategy that the Minnesota Department of Corrections uses to address over-crowding issues currently facing Minnesota prisons—reviews the unintended consequences of HOF policies and how they negatively impact an inmate’s children and family. [http://z.umn.edu/inciparcia](http://z.umn.edu/inciparcia)

### Other Resources

#### Children with Incarcerated Parents: Considering Children’s Outcomes in the Context of Complex Family Experiences (19 pages)

From the University of Minnesota’s Children, Youth & Family Consortium (CYFC), this eReview covers research and provides practice suggestions on the issues facing children and families affected by incarceration. [http://z.umn.edu/incereview](http://z.umn.edu/incereview)

#### Unbarred: Strengthening Families Affected by Incarceration (multimedia)

This symposium, part of CYFC’s Lessons from the Field series, highlighted the too often silent population of children and youth with an incarcerated parent. Access multiple presentation slides, videos, and other resources at [http://z.umn.edu/lfftinc](http://z.umn.edu/lfftinc).

CYFC has also released a list of children’s books (4 pages) relevant to children facing parental incarceration. [http://z.umn.edu/cyfcbbooks](http://z.umn.edu/cyfcbbooks)

**Little Children, Big Challenges: Incarceration** was created by Sesame Street, and contains videos, tips, and other engaging resources for children, parents, and providers. [http://z.umn.edu/sskit](http://z.umn.edu/sskit)

The Minnesota Prison Doula Project ([mnprison-doulaproject.org](http://mnprison-doulaproject.org)) and the Strengthening Families Affected by Incarceration Coalition ([familiesaffectedbyincarceration.org](http://familiesaffectedbyincarceration.org)) offer great resources for research, events, birth stories, and more.

---


The Center for Leadership Education in Maternal and Child Public Health is supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) under grant number T76MC00005-59-00 for Leadership Education in Maternal and Child Public Health in the amount of $1,750,000. This information or content and conclusions of our outreach products are those of the authors and should not be construed as the official position or policy of, nor should any endorsements be inferred by HRSA, HHS or the U.S. Government.

Contact: mch@umn.edu