

To whom it may concern (Revised 29Nov08):

Ms. Jones and I are Parenting Coordinators at P.R.E.F. Our parenting program is funded by a federal grant which pays our salaries, provides a small amount for the 4 major events that we put on each quarter (which are a Caregiver Appreciation in March, a family picnic in June, a Halloween carnival in October and a Christmas party in December), provides a small amount for office supplies. We rely heavily on donations from community resources to fulfill the rest of the needs of our program.

One of the parenting programs that we teach is "Inside Out Dads". This class is the main core of our program. The men learn parenting skills and ways to stay in contact with their families while still incarcerated. Once the resident graduates this class, he is eligible to participate in the Children's Visitation Center if the mother of his children signs a consent form for him to do so. He gets to visit his children by himself with just P.R.E.F staff supervision. He gets a valuable chance to reconnect with his children and use the parenting skills he has learned in class.

This Children's Visitation Center is what our department is currently trying to develop. We have been given a portion of the facilities old visitation room which P.R.E.F has to remodel some and adapt to the parenting department's needs.

We have compiled a list of what we need for the center. The age range of the children who will visit will be infants to 13 years old. They will be provided with a nutritious snack. The center will provide disposable diapers and pull ups for children needing them.

Thank you for whatever assistance you can provide to help us get what we need to open our Children's Visitation Center. Ms. Jones and I can answer any further questions you may have. We look forward to working with you.

Nancy S Hanson & Timike L Jones, P.R.E.F. Parenting Coordinators
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Items that we would like for our Children's Visitation Center

Play area

Bean Bag chairs
Kid's area rug
Hard plastic toys
Wooden toys
Push toys
Tricycles, big wheels, wagon
Toy storage units and shelving for them to fit in
Child size chairs and tables
Family card games
Lots of Puzzles
Preschool toys
Dress up clothes like purses, costume jewelry
Large beads they can string
Baby doll clothes
Dishes & Play food
Baby rattles and play things
Balls of all kinds
Kids musical instruments like drums, tambourines, keyboards, sticks, cymbals & a Karaoke machine
Video games

Preschool number books, workbooks
Puppets
Playschool Activity equipment like houses, forts, etc.
Barbie dolls
No guns or anything that alludes to violence
Toys need to be cleanable
Baby blankets
Burp rags
Disposable bibs

Kitchenette

Wash clothes, dish clothes, dish towels, paper towels
Individual pre-packaged chips, animal crackers, individual pudding and Jell-O cups, individual juice boxes like Hi-C, peanut butter and crackers and cheese and crackers, fruit cups, anything nutritious and prepackaged like raisins
Disposable Sippy cups, plastic spoons, forks, napkins, regular disposable cups
Clorox wipes, dish soap, bacterial hand soap, hand sanitizer

Living Room

Area rug
Boom box with kids CDs
Wipes
Disposable Diapers in a variety of sizes
Baby lotion
Pull-ups
First-Aid Kit

Study room

Markers, pens, pencils, erasers, glue, scissors, colored paper, coloring books, crayons, art supplies