



# Resources for Families in Washington, DC

Recommended by Building Bonds Through Books

In addition to the book provided by BBTB, here are some resources families may find helpful in navigating education as well as community resources. We have also provided a supplemental reading list that your local librarian may help you find!

## 1. Hope House DC (all ages)

<https://www.hopehousedc.org/programs/>  
Telephone: 202.506.2253

Peer support groups for children, wives, and caregivers left behind when a loved one is incarcerated allow them to join together to deal with the stresses and stigmas attached to having a family member in prison. These groups provide a supportive community, recreation, and other activities, as well as mentoring experiences.

## 2. DC Public Library (Pre-K - 5 years old)

<https://www.dclibrary.org/booksfrombirth>  
Email: [booksfrombirth@dc.gov](mailto:booksfrombirth@dc.gov)

The Books from Birth program is open to all children under the age of five who live in Washington, D.C. It mails all enrolled kids in D.C. a free book each month from birth until they turn 5.

## 3. Big Brothers Big Sisters (Ages 6-18)

<https://bbbsnca.org/mentoring-children-of-promise-initiative/>  
Telephone: 202-783-5585  
Contact Form: <https://bbbsnca.org/contact/>

Mentoring Children of Promise serves children of incarcerated parents and is more than a program – it's a passionate response to the needs of children with one or both parents in prison. Big Brothers Big Sisters Mentoring Children of Promise mentors offers children hope!

*Please refer to our National Resources page for further assistance!*

## 4. Hope House DC - Adults

<https://www.hopehousedc.org/mission/>  
Telephone: 202.506.2253

Hope House DC offers programs to prisoners and their families aimed at decreasing recidivism and keeping incarcerated men connected to the community. Not surprisingly, studies have shown that prisoners who remain in contact with their families while incarcerated have a lower recidivism rate.

### Reading List:

#### Ages 3-8:

- Missing Daddy by Mariame Kaba & Bria Royal
- Knock Knock: My Dad's Dream for Me by Daniel Beaty
- Our Moms (Living with Incarcerated Parents) by Q. Futrell
- Kennedy's Big Visit by Daphne Brooks
- My Daddy's in Jail by Anthony Curcio

#### Ages 8-12:

- Amber Was Brave, Essie Was Smart by Vera B Williams
- Jakeman by Deborah Ellis
- An Inmate's Daughter by Jan Walker

#### Ages 12+:

- All I Ever Wanted...Stories of Children of the Incarcerated by Erika Duncan, Tanasha Y. Gordon

#### Parents/Guardians:

- Children with Incarcerated Mothers Separation, Loss, and Reunification by Julie Poehlmann-Tynan, Danielle Dallaire