



FFLIC

WHO IS FFLIC?



Families and Friends of Louisiana's Incarcerated Children (FFLIC) began our work fighting for children who were locked in Louisiana's prisons, starting with the Tallulah Correctional Center for Youth, which FFLIC helped close. At the time, parents, family members, and allies got together and began to share stories of how their children were suffering inside the center and their experiences with the unjust systems and practices that landed them there. It has been years since the successful closing of Tallulah, and fewer children are locked in Louisiana's state prisons, but we believe there is still a long way to go. And we can get there together. With this in mind, FFLIC developed a three-point platform for our "Let Kids Be Kids" Campaign, which urges Louisiana's leaders to come together to holistically address the critical needs of children related to mental health, education, and poverty.

MENTAL HEALTH

Prison is the wrong place to meet mental health needs, but more than 40% of Louisiana's incarcerated children have mental health challenges.

EDUCATION

Education is key to a child's development and their ability to contribute to society, but Louisiana ranks 48th in education.

POVERTY

Poverty is a form of violence that can lead to crime in order to survive, but Louisiana ranks 49th in economic well-being.

Additionally, FFLIC realizes that outside of the home and family, one of the most important influences on our children is their school. While schools can act as a protective factor against negative influences in their lives, they are often making children more vulnerable to violence. Studies show that children who were suspended are more likely to drop out and be incarcerated. This phenomenon of harsh discipline policies and practices that push schoolchildren, especially our most vulnerable children, out of classrooms and into the criminal justice system is known as the school-to-prison pipeline and it must stop. FFLIC believes that all children have a human right to a quality public education in a safe and supportive learning environment that addresses their challenges related to mental health, education, and poverty. Thus, we work to help parents support their children by making sure the school systems are working for them.

Join us

Visit our website at www.fflic.org to read more about our work or become a FFLIC member to receive the support you need to fight for your child and ALL children. You can also call us at 504-708-8376 or email us at fflic@fflic.org for more information.