

Stigma dismantled, dignity upheld

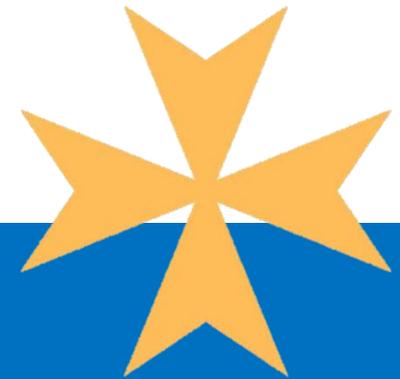
Child rights standards for children affected by parental imprisonment

Caritas Malta Community Centre, 12 June 2025



Addressing stigma in Roma communities: developing support projects for children and families affected by imprisonment

Šárka Vlková



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History of Romodrom Prison Programmes

- NGO founded in 2001
- Start of Prison Programmes in 2003 based on experience in Roma socially excluded localities, where people had prison experience or were imprisoned at the moment.
- Romodrom became member of COPE from 2023
- Most important action: Revised Child Safeguarding Policy



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Programmes for adults with experience of imprisonment



Prison social work programme

Additional support after release

Bonding with families during imprisonment

Prison Help Line



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Need of Additional Support

Before imprisonment – Help Line PRISON

Start in Prison – SOCIAL WORK IN PRISON

Support after Release – ADAPTATION

Support for children and family members

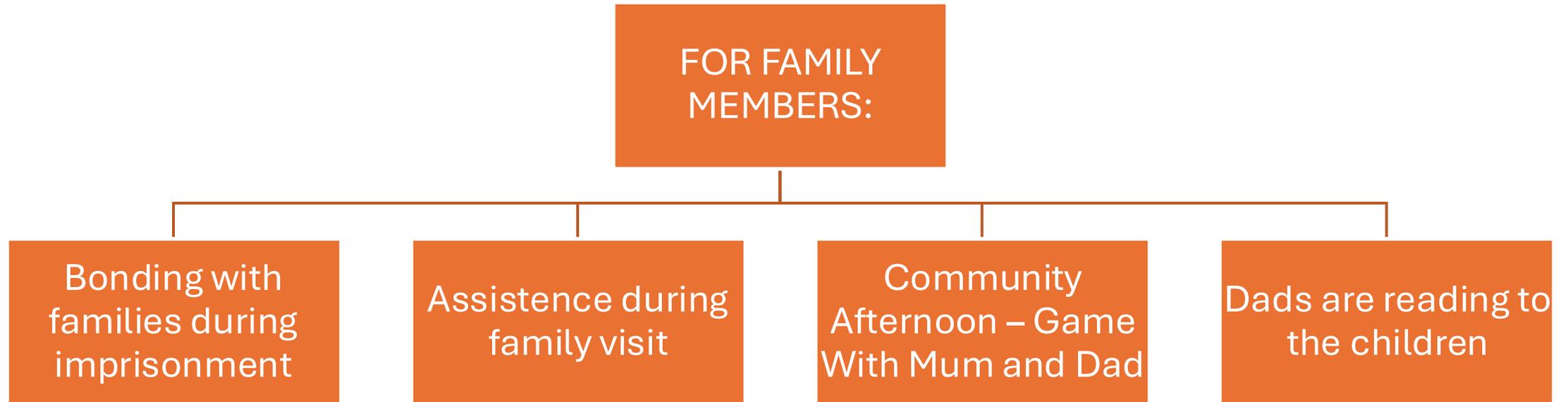


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Programmes for family members of people with experience of imprisonment



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Game with Mum and Dad

1. Roma cultural workshops:

- dance,
- music,
- cartoon workshops

2. A sports afternoon including football, MMA, and aerobic



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The Game with Mum & Dad Initiative

A peer-led project offering:

- A sports afternoon including football, MMA and dance
- Involvement of children in co-designing the event
- Encourages joy, and pride
- Offer for kids with or without imprisonment experience



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Effective Bonding with Parents and Child in Prison

The goal of the project is to build support for building a healthy relationship between child and parent in prison

Support needs to start as soon as possible in the prison and also after release from prison

In our experience Roma people have better relationships with families during imprisonment



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Dads are reading to the Children



Recording of a fairytale read by Parent in the Prison

Delivery to the family to stay in touch with at least the voice of father

Thanks to these bonding moments we can cooperate on other needs



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Thank you!

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