



## About Bridge Builders for Kids

Bridge Builders for Kids started in 2000 as Coyote Ridge Christian Ranch, a camp for children of prisoners. We soon realized that these children needed additional support throughout the year. In 2003, Bridge Builders for Kids was started.

Bridge Builders for Kids is a Christian organization that serves children of prisoners. Our vision is to break the cycle of incarceration through mentoring and camp. We currently serve the Twin Cities and Rochester areas.

Our mission is to connect children of prisoners and their families to a faith-based network that inspires them to live up to their God-given potential as members of society.



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A higher standard.  
A higher purpose.

bridgeBUILDERS  
for kids

P.O. Box 7124  
Rochester, MN 55903-7124



bridgeBUILDERS  
for kids

# Connecting Lives. Instilling Hope.

### Get Involved!

- Mentor
- Volunteer
- Donate

Learn how at:

[www.bridgebuilders.cc](http://www.bridgebuilders.cc)



What happens...  
**when a child's parent goes to prison?**

**Anger, Shame & Abandonment**

Children of prisoners often have wounded spirits that can set them on a life course that feels hopeless.

It is estimated there are over 15,000 children in Minnesota with an incarcerated parent. Children of prisoners are seven times more likely to become involved in the criminal justice system than their peers, making them one of the highest at-risk group of kids in our nation.

**“ I know that if no one reaches out to my son, he is going to end up in prison with me. ”**  
- Incarcerated Father



What happens...  
**when a mentor comes alongside this child?**

**Trust, Hope & Confidence**

Positive change happens when a caring adult provides consistent encouragement to the child. Children are exposed to new experiences and observe healthy relationships first hand.

**Children with mentors are:**

- 59% more likely to improve grades
- 46% less likely to start using illegal drugs
- 35% less likely to become pregnant or to cause a pregnancy
- More likely to raise their goals and expectations
- More motivated to go on to college

**“ I've seen my son grow in many areas since he has had a mentor. He's doing better in school and he's a lot more confident. ”**  
- Mother of 12 year-old boy



What happens...  
**when a child goes to Coyote Ridge Camp?**

**Healing, Renewal & Transformation**

Coyote Ridge Christian Ranch is a 200-acre camp located in Lake City, MN where needs specific to children of prisoners are addressed. Children have the opportunity to spend one-on-one time with adult volunteers doing a wide range of activities including horseback riding, canoeing, crafts and hiking.

Children experience freedom in knowing they are not alone. Through fun activities and one-to-one time with caring adults the walls come down. Children learn how to deal with the anger and sadness they are carrying.

**“ The changes I saw in the children after camp is the difference between darkness and light. ”**  
- Pastor Sarah Lawrence-Wieben