



Award for jail program

A PARENTING program at Acacia Prison trying to help break the generational cycle of crime has been recognised at the Crime and Violence Prevention Awards.

The Inside Parents program, run by community service agency Uniting-Care West, helps educate fathers in prison about their responsibilities as parents and to their families on the outside as well as creating opportunities for contact with family members during their incarceration.

It aims to improve functionality of families after fathers are released and increase the likelihood of successful reintegration into the community, with special support services available after release.

The program has already shown signs of success with decreased recidivism rates among participants.

The program, one of several recognised in the awards, was aimed at grassroots level and focused on building positive links in families, Police Minister Rob Johnson said.

"Programs recognised here have been driven by ordinary people who have had the vision and the initiative to do something extraordinary for their community," Mr Johnson said.