ROCK COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES

Parents Supporting Parents (PSP)

"IF YOU CAN'T SEE WHERE YOU'RE GOING, ASK SOMEONE WHO HAS BEEN THERE BEFORE." -J LOREN NORRIS

For questions and inquiries, contact
Program Coordinator:
Nataleigh Redler

(608) 577-0309
Or
nredler@psgcip.com

What is Parents Supporting Parents?

Parents Supporting Parents (PSP) is a program that matches parents new to the Child Protective Services (CPS) system with a parent who has been involved in the system. It's a program where parents support and guide other parents so that families can be together without CPS system involvement.

Parent Partners serve as models of hope and sources of support for parents experiencing CPS system involvement.

Parents Supporting Parents (PSP) cultivates the leadership of Wisconsin parents who have lived experience in the Child Protective Services (CPS) system and believes that parent voice matters.

Parent Partners play an important role in supporting parents currently receiving child protective services and improving the system for parents and children.

Parents Supporting Parents: How it works

The PSP Program is a voluntary program that matches parents currently involved in CPS with a Parent Partner. A Parent Partner is a parent with lived experience in the CPS system. This means that they too were once involved with CPS due to child safety concerns. Parent Partners have successfully completed the process, had their case closed, and are no longer involved with services. Parent Partners offer support to parents and help them understand how the CPS system works.

Parents Supporting Parents: Meeting you where you're at

When CPS gets involved with a family, it can feel overwhelming and scary. As a parent, you are probably feeling a lot of different emotions right now. Sometimes it is helpful to talk to someone who understands and "gets it"... someone who can support you and guide you through the process. A Parent Partner is able to offer that support because they were once in your shoes.

"I could walk a mile in your shoes. But I already know they're just as uncomfortable as mine. Let's walk next to each other instead."
~ Lynda Meyers, Author

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Support Provided

Parent Partners offer support in many different ways:

- Listen and offer emotional support
- Explain how the CPS system works Share their story and what worked for them
- Encourage you to identify your strengths and build your supports Provide encouragement and hope during the tough times
- Support you in preparing for meetings, court hearings, and visits with your child(ren)
- Empower you to learn new skills and get through the process

Parents Supporting Parents: Next steps

If you are interested in working with a Parent Partner or learning more about PSP, please let your social worker know. They will have you sign a Release of Information so that they can contact the PSP program Coordinator, who will assign a Parent Partner. You can also contact the Coordinator directly to get connected with a Parent Partner.

The Parent Partner will call you to tell you more about the program and themselves and answer any questions you may have. If you decide to participate, the Parent Partner will set up a time to meet with you to complete the PSP enrollment process. They might ask some questions to get to know you, your family, and your situation. This is a normal part of the enrollment process.

Once enrolled in PSP, you and the Parent Partner will work out a meeting schedule that works for both of you.

"All of us, at certain moments of our lives, need to take advice and to receive help from other people."
~ Alexis Carrel

Contact Information:

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In Partnership with:
Professional Services Group (PSG)
and
Wisconsin Department of Children and Families (DCF)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES GROUP

Wisconsin Department of Children and Families

For additional information on DCF and the Parents Supporting Parents Program, visit them on the web at: https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/cwportal/parents-supporting-parents or scan the QR code.