

# Parents Supporting Parents

## Wisconsin's Parent Partner Model in Child Welfare



### Mission

Parents Supporting Parents (PSP) cultivates the leadership of Wisconsin parents who have lived experience in the child welfare system to serve as models of hope and sources of support for parents experiencing public child welfare and to shape services and systems that promote child safety, permanency and family well-being.

### Vision

Parent voices are elevated and supported as key partners in the child welfare process and toward systems improvement efforts in order to promote resilient and thriving Wisconsin families, communities and systems.

### About the Program

Wisconsin's parent partner model (PSP) is an evidence-based model that is aimed at empowering parents with lived Child Welfare experience as mentors to parents currently within the child welfare system.

Parents Supporting Parents in Wisconsin follows the evidence-based Iowa's parent partner model and is becoming the third state to implement and evaluate this model. PSP innovation zones in Wisconsin are **Door, Jefferson, and Rock** counties.

### PSP Benefits to Parents & Families

Research on Parent Partner programs demonstrate strong positive outcomes for participating parents:

- Higher rates of reunification and lower rates of re-entry in to the system
- A greater belief in one's self and hope
- Knowledge of how to advocate for themselves
- Organizational skills and access to resources

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### PSP Engages the Expertise of Parents in Child Welfare Systems Change

Parents who have experienced the child welfare system are engaged as leaders through:



**Direct service:** providing peer support to parents who are currently navigating the child welfare system.



**Local systems change:** impacting and informing needed systems change by advising in their county and community.



**State systems change:** contributing to and facilitating state policy change work by informing decisions.

This multi-level collaboration will build a long-lasting, intentional, and sustainable infrastructure of lived experience voice within all levels of Wisconsin's child welfare system.

