

Parents Supporting Parents

Wisconsin's Parent Partner Model in Child Welfare Impact Statements



Legal Partners

Having a parent partner on our Healthy Infant Court cases has been incredibly advantageous. A parent partner not only supports the work we are doing in the court, but bridges the gap between the court process and real-life experiences. They are an advocate who allows the parent's voice, experience, and needs to be uplifted in such a natural and supportive manner while also linking the parent with supports that will hopefully long outlive their presence in the system.

- Judge, Milwaukee County Children's Division and Milwaukee County Healthy Infant Court Coordinator

I had the privilege of working with the Parent Partners in the program's infancy. Although parents were reluctant to volunteer at first, once they did you could see how important the peer support parent was to the success of our JET program. Not only did the child welfare parents open up to the Parent Partners, they became more engaged in the review hearings and focused on the conditions of return. It is natural for parents to distrust the system that has just taken their children from them. Getting the parents to trust and engage is essential to getting the children safely back home.

- Judge, Jefferson County Circuit Court

The PSP is an integral part of the court process as they are the only person who has been in my client's position. PSP can offer a realistic and unique prospective of the court process that I am not able to do as their lawyer. I can empathize and relate to some of the issues my clients are dealing with, but I won't have that relatable connection with my client that the PSP does. All my clients assigned to a PSP have expressed the relationship as a positive connection and experience.

- Attorney, Jefferson County, JET Program

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PSP Impact Statements

The Parents Supporting Parents Impact Statements are collected from those who have experienced Parents Supporting Parents in Wisconsin.

System Partners



I have worked with families that felt unheard and discouraged until they were referred to the PSP program. I believe this program gives families the hope and support that they need during a time that they need it the most. I've seen clients begin to find their voice and feel supported once they began working with a parent partner.

- Family Support Supervisor



"Parent partners develop a strong relationship to have difficult conversations with families on goals and how to meet with the team's support. Provide great check ins for how things are going on meeting goals and can help communicate to the team when the family is in need of more support."

- CLTS Case Manager



One of the most remarkable aspects of this program is the sense of hope and empowerment it instills in parents, the parent partners, and the social service workers impacted by this program. Through my interactions with members of the board and the parent partners, I have observed feedback from members of the community describing the increase in family confidence and belief in their abilities to parent. This restoration of hope is the cornerstone of the positive impact Parents Supporting Parents delivers.

- Wisconsin Family Connection Center

