

## **Parent Mentoring**

The **Parent Mentoring** program works with families to bring about constructive change through support, guidance, instruction, and/or treatment. Service providers will work with families and community based systems to provide In Home Services that are planned and on a weekly basis. Parent Mentors have been able to continue to assist families by focusing on parent-child interactions. Often, the goal is to help parents avoid ineffective parenting responses by learning effective ways of managing their children's behavior, and how to intervene with specific child and adolescent problems. Our Parent Mentors possess skill sets in the areas of domestic violence, substance abuse, parenting education, mental health and trauma issues.

## How can Parent Mentoring Help Families

- Our professional service providers will work on topics such as:
- Understanding the reasoning behind your child's behavior
- Learning tools that help to nurture your child's behavior
- Expanding your ability to manage everyday life stresses
- Locating resources essential to meeting your family's specific needs
- Creating an environment where all family members can reach their full potential
- Parent Mentors help parent and caregivers gain the knowledge and skills required to raise emotionally, psychologically, and physically healthy children.
- Assess for parental capacities as related to child safety and well-being.
- Help family member's overcome barriers and identify strengths to meet the children's needs for safety, permanence, and well-being.
- Use Motivational interviewing, collaborative problem solving, wraparound, and other effective practices.
- Knowledge of dynamics of high-risk families including sexual abuse, domestic violence, and substance abuse

- Provide a range of services including parent education, communication skills, home management, budgeting, stress reduction, stabilization of home environment, and other safety services
- Conduct parent/caregiver interaction sessions
- Refer youth/family members to supportive services to supplement treatment and counseling as appropriately needed
- Maintain accurate and current youth records including weekly session notes, monthly reports, and plan of care
- Participate in the Child and family Team meetings

## **Required Knowledge, Skills and Abilities:**

- Values working in a multicultural/diverse work environment.
- Strong commitment to the population and to seeing parents succeed.
- Ability to communicate in a professional manner, both orally and in writing.
- Ability to advocate for others.
- Organizational and time management skills.
- Ability to maintain professional boundaries and to handle confidential information.
- Openness to feedback and supervision.
- Ability to handle sensitive information and situations in a calm and professional manner.
- Ability to work from a strengths-based perspective in motivating parents to make a change.
- Demonstrated ability to work as a member of a team.

## **Education and Experience Requirements:**

- Licensed/Master Parent Mentors must possess a license in a mental/behavioral health background and have experience working with at risk families.
- Bachelor level Parent Mentors must possess one year experience in a mental/behavioral health background and have worked with at risk Families.