

PARENT PARTNER PROGRAM

The Parent Partner program is parents helping parents who are involved with the child welfare system.

Parent Partners are parents who have been through “the system” themselves and have successfully reunified with their own children. They are committed to giving back by helping to engage birth parents who have had their children removed. The primary goal is to help these parents get their children returned to them.

Parent Partners provide support and motivation, serve as advocates for the birth parents, and connect families with resources in the community.



A service provided through

*Linking Families
and Communities*

*The Department
of Human Services*

&

*Community Partnership for
Protecting Children*



**PARENT
PARTNER
PROGRAM**

**For Calhoun,
Pocahontas, and
Webster Counties**

*“Partnering with Parents to
Rebuild Families”*

Who is a Parent Partner?

- ❖ Someone who has personally gone through the child welfare system and has successfully reunified with their children
- ❖ Parents who are trained with information about the Department of Human Services (DHS), foster care, court proceedings, and services offered in our area
- ❖ Advocates who can support families at family team meetings, court hearings, and other meetings and service appointments
- ❖ People well-informed with community organizations and can help parents access resources
- ❖ Mentors who can offer support, encouragement, & outreach to parents
- ❖ A link between DHS caseworkers and parents to engage parents to participate in and complete their case plan requirements.

What does it takes to become a Parent Partner?

- ❖ Parent Partners must have had previous involvement with the child welfare system and have successfully reunified with their children for at least a year
- ❖ Must be clean and sober for at least a year
- ❖ Must have a stable family situation with no current DHS issues
- ❖ Must have a flexible schedule to attend meetings and co-facilitate groups
- ❖ Must be willing to share their experiences with other parents, community partners, and child welfare staff as a learning tool
- ❖ Must be willing to participate in all mandated training as well as individual and group supervision.



If you would like to participate in the Parent Partner Program or receive more information contact:



Jacque Hawk
CPW CPPC/ Parent Partner
Program Coordinator

822 Central Avenue, Suite 340
Fort Dodge, IA. 50501

jhawk@linking-families.com

Phone: 515-269-3303
Fax: 515-955-3601

www.rebuilding-families.com

Or contact your local Department of Human Services worker and ask for a referral to the program.