

**Parents for Parents** is designed to provide support to parents whose children have been removed from their care by Child Protective Services (CPS) or whose children are in an in-home dependency. The **Parents for Parents Program** connects "Parent Allies" (parents who have successfully navigated the juvenile dependency system) with parents who are new to the system. Parent Allies provide support and help parents new to the system understand what they must do to successfully reunite with their children.



with offices located in  
**Lewis, Mason, & Thurston Counties**

Office: 360.754.7629  
Fax: 360.705.3411  
FAMILYESS.ORG

**Program Contact:**

Natalya Kinder, Program Director  
Office: 360.754.7629  
Fax: 360.705.3411  
P4P@familyess.org



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# **PARENTS FOR PARENTS**

Services to guide parents  
involved in the  
Child Dependency System  
provided by parents with  
lived-experience in  
navigating the system



# PARENTS FOR PARENTS

Parents for Parents consists of three main elements: Parent Ally Support at Dependency Court Hearings, a 1.5 hour educational class called Dependency 101, and ongoing support classes called Dependency 201 and Dependency 301.

## The Shelter Care Hearings

At a Shelter Care Hearing, a judge or commissioner decides whether it is safe for the child to remain in the home or whether the child should be placed in out-of-home care. The focus of the hearing is to protect the child and offer ways for the parent to address the issues that led to the state's involvement. The **Parents for Parents Program** focuses on providing support and information at this hearing as well as subsequent hearings.

Parents typically come to the Shelter Care Hearing feeling scared, confused, angry, and alone.

### A Parent Ally:

- Is a parent who has successfully navigated the juvenile dependency system.
- Meets with parents before court and helps them understand that others have been through this process. Reunification is possible!
- Helps to navigate parents into services and provide resources that can benefit them and signs them up for the Dependency 101 class.

## Dependency 101

Dependency 101 is a 1.5 hour session designed to educate parents about the dependency system and help parents learn to navigate it. Parent Allies and system stakeholders collaborate in presenting the information. During the class, parents:

- Receive information on the dependency process, a calendar to track appointments, a list of important phone numbers, a Family Recovery Court pamphlet, a list of current community resources, and other tools to assist them
- Watch an educational video about the dependency process
- Listen to Parent Allies share their experience with the dependency system
- Meet and learn about the roles of professionals available to provide guidance to parents navigating family court.

## Parenting Forward (Dependency 201)

Parenting forward is a 12-week course designed to offer continued mentoring and resource support throughout the dependency case. It covers a variety of topics geared towards empowering and educating parents on continued success in a dependency case.

Parents can choose to join one or all of the courses offered, with certificates given for each course completed. The course topics include:

- Family-Time/Visitation
- Navigating Dependency
- Communication
- Resourcing
- Goal Setting



## Dependency 301

Offers continued mentoring, community engagement, and resource support throughout the dependency case.

*"I learned that I needed to engage in services now, not let my anger stop me from getting my child back."*

- Parent after attending Dep. 101