

4/20/23 Talking Points

1. Share (at your comfort) why you do peer work, your experience with an open adjudicated case with DCYF (Division for Children Youth and Families) and a missing area early on was peer support, someone who could identify with what you were going through.

Strength to Succeed started in 2018 as a grant funded initiative supporting parents with open court cases who were involved due to Substance Use with children 10 or younger. The program expanded SUD in 2019 to support assessment cases and Relative Caregivers involved for SUD with children 10 or younger. In 2020 the program expanded again to delivering peer support to families involved with the division due to Mental Health and Chronic Neglect. And in October 2021, STS became embedded in the DCYF service array as a Medicaid approved service for Parents, Kin involved at any level due to SUD, MH, CN with no restriction on the age limit of the children.

Our staff are all individuals with lived experience (or expertise as we call it) and that experience can be with child protection, legal systems, addiction/recovery, mental health. This is what gives us space to connect with families on a different level than the CPSW.

STS services include:

Peer Coaching

Peer Recovery Coaching

Needs Assessing

Goal planning/working

Care Coordination

In home services

Education (Parenting and Recovery)

Nurturing Parenting

PASTA (Parenting a Second time Around)

Talk about what the services look like when working with families.

Data:

Since 10/2021 the program has supported with 684 Parents or Relatives