

Parent Outreach Program

For over fifty years, since the Council On Mental Retardation was created by a group of concerned parents, Parent Outreach activities have been a core part of the Council! About 30 years ago on a more formal basis, the Parent Outreach program was established because parents realized the tremendous benefits they gained through their interactions with one another. Since that time the Council has provided a staff person who works with the Parent Outreach Committee to develop ways to facilitate ongoing friendships between parents of infants, children, and adult children with mental retardation.

Activities

Parent Outreach Volunteers, experienced parents who offer a shoulder to lean on and a voice of experience to new or challenged parents of children with mental retardation.

Just Getting Started/The Second Step,(especially for families of infants and young children) meets the 3rd Wed of each month, 10am at Churchill Park School & the following Saturday, 10am to 12pm at 1146 South 3rd, the Council's office. Please call Susan Lawrence at 584-1239, for information or to be put on the mailing list.

Edna's Place, every Tuesday, 11AM to 1PM is open discussion time. Drop by the Council's office, 1146 South 3rd, come upstairs to Edna's Place, have a cup of coffee, and talk with Parent Outreach staff about your concerns, questions regarding your child/adult child with disabilities. (another day & time can be arranged by calling 584-1239)

Father's Group, this group is meeting for specific topics of interest. Call and request a meeting!

The "Table Talk" Group brings together parents of adults with mental retardation. Meetings are held at the Council office on the 4th Thurs of each month, 11:30AM. Parents have the opportunity to talk with

each other while enjoying their brown bag lunch.

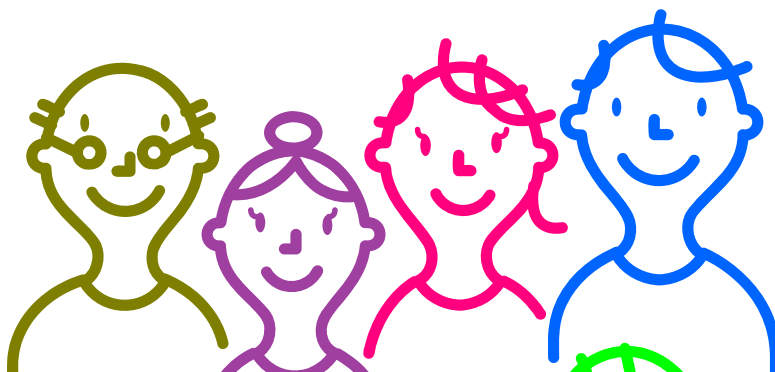
Adult Sibs, A committee of Adult Sibs will be happy to plan & host a meeting for specific topics of interest as requested. Call Susan Lawrence at 584-1239 to put a plan into action!

West Louisville Support Group meets at Christ the King when specific topics of interested are requested. We'd love to hear from you!.

Dream Catchers, a Portland area parent group that meets the 2nd Thurs of each month at Neighborhood House at 11:00. Family members of all age children are invited.

A Parent Outreach Newsbrief and Activities Calendar is produced and sent out every two months to a mailing list of 2,000 families.

Trainings/Workshops on relevant issues are presented periodically. (Examples: I.E.P. (Individual Educational Plan), Recreational Opportunities, Supported Living, Sexuality and the Mentally Retarded, Planning for the Future, etc.)



To learn more about Parent Outreach activities, call Susan Lawrence at: (502) 584-1239, or send email to: outreach@councilonmr.org