

Clermont County

Judge James A. Shriver

Program Name

Parent Project

Program Intervention

Parental Support/Guidance

Primary Service Location

Community

Program Description

- The purpose of the program is to reduce formal court proceedings by helping parents develop the skills they need to manage their strong-willed or out-of-control children.
- The majority of the parents referred to the program come from truancy intervention, unruly referrals or complaints from parents. Parents express their frustration handling challenging issues such as drug and alcohol use, truancy, leaving home without permission or as they put it “hanging out with the wrong crowd”.
- The court chose “*The Parent Project*” as an intervention because it is proven to be successful in identifying preventing, and intervening in the most destructive of adolescent behaviors.
- In addition to classroom instruction, “*The Parent Project*” employs support groups based on the UCLA self-help support group model.

Outcomes

- 66 % of youth did not incur new charges six months after successful completion.
- 66 % of youth were not formally processed to court six months after successful completion.

Lessons Learned

- Divorced or separated parents should attend sessions apart from each other.
- Transportation and attendance issues will always present as a barrier no matter how much the court may threaten sanctions.

Program Snapshot

(As of June 30, 2016)

Gender:

39% Male
61% Female

Race/Ethnicity:

100% Caucasian

Age Range:

10-17

Offense Level:

Misdemeanor, Status, At-Risk

Youth Re-offense Risk Level:

Low & Moderate

Screens & Assessments:

OYAS Diversion Tool

Program Start Date:

August 27th, 2015

Received Services:

18 Families

Program Completion Successes:

11 Families Completed
0 Families Continuing into FY17

Average # of Service Units:

22.5 Direct Service Hours per
Successful Family

Program Partners:

- Child Focus, Inc.
- University of Cincinnati UCCI
- Landmark Baptist Church
- Mt. Carmel Christian Church

Program Information Contact

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Clermont County Early Successes – Parent Project

“When I refer parents to “The Parent Project,” they complain that they don’t need parenting classes. When I see them after they have attended classes, they thank me for sending them.”

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“Before attending “The Parent Project” our house was in complete and total chaos. After using the skills that I learned in class with all of my children, our house is fun again.”

Parent of a Youth

“Before attending “The Parent Project” I never knew when my son would return home and in what condition. Now, my son and I have a good relationship based on trust and respect. I know he will be home at the agreed upon time.”

Parent of a Youth

Youth Success Story – Anna is a thirteen-year old female whose parents are divorced. She mainly stays with mom but goes to her dad’s home every other weekend and some during the week. According to Anna’s parents, dad is very strict, they don’t agree on anything and this has contributed to Anna’s poor relationship with her father. Anna’s school attendance and performance are poor. Her grades are mostly Ds, and she has truancy and behavior issues.

Both parents were ordered to attend “The Parent Project.” During the first class they admitted they parented differently and their communication with each other was strained. As the weeks went by the facilitators began noticing a change in the way they communicated with each other. They were working together for the sake of their daughter. Today, Anna has a much improved relationship with her father and her parents communicate and support each other about issues of parenting. As far as school, Anna is earning As and Bs and goes to school every day. She has had no behavior issues in the last three months. According to Anna’s principal, “Anna is a totally different kid”.

Program Success Story – We understand that anything worth doing typically has to go through stages of development before becoming a true "Success." Along the way, we have heard court-ordered parents say – usually after third session – they indicated that they are a part of the class. One parent’s partner wouldn’t come, but by week six she was reporting how her partner was now using some of the same Steps of Success that she’d been using. She even reported that all of her children seemed to be more relaxed and less argumentative. One parent was ready to watch her son leave at age 18, but despite her severe social anxiety – during week eight she found the courage to stand up to another group member in an assertive way, and then proceeded to read out loud (which was something she had never done in class before). Even parents who have not successfully completed the course are telling our Judge just how much they liked the Parent Project curriculum and how much they see its value in helping families like theirs. This Parent Project class is very much a worthwhile endeavor here in Clermont County.

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