

Department of Human Services

The Parent Action Network (PAN) provides child welfare focused parenting groups for parents with open cases. PAN works in partnership with the PHMC Parenting Collaborative that includes 37 agencies which provide parenting groups throughout Philadelphia. PAN offers group facilitator training through a nine-week course that is experiential and designed to educate, enhance, and empower professionals' facilitation skills and expand on their social work skillset. PAN group curriculums are derived from evidence based and evidence informed frameworks, theories, and practices in a safe and supportive environment. PAN provides free parenting and educational support groups with available childcare, refreshments, and transportation.

Service	Details
Parenting Collaborative	Parenting Collaborative (PC) is a city-wide network of organizations that provide community-based formal Parenting Education and Anger Management programming to at-risk populations throughout Philadelphia. Parent Collaborative providers serve vulnerable populations of caregivers/parents in effort to enhance parenting skills and support parents' efforts to raise healthy children. Parent Education strengthens family connections and provides families with needed skills to reduce incidences of child abuse and neglect
	PC collaborates with DHS, PAN and CUAs to refer potential parents to an appropriate class. Provides information about the program as well as identify and connect the individual to a parenting education class that matches the potential participants need. Contact PCReferral@phmc.org or call 215 825-8259 for additional information.
Strengthening Families Initiative	Our mission is to promote healthy relationships and bridge community connections in Philadelphia and beyond. We create opportunities to nurture growth, build partnerships and connect with resources while providing experiences for shared learning and support. We utilize our Parent Cafe experience as a safe space where parents support each other. Our Community Umbrella Agencies (CUA) host parent cafes in ten (10) different regions throughout Philadelphia. Many groups are led by parents and are judgement free. They help parents to recognize their strengths and learn how to build on them. This is a great opportunity for parents to discuss any concerns in a safe nonjudgmental environment. We provide a meal, free childcare and transportation.
Achieving Reunification Center	The Achieving Reunification Center (ARC) provides all families with children in out-of-home placement with resources to achieve reunification through the provision of appropriate support services that ensure the child's safety and strengthen the family's ability to become stable and self-sufficient.
	The Achieving Reunification Center is a one stop shop delivery model that provides support to parents/caregivers that have children in placement and are actively seeking

City of Philadelphia DHS

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reunification. Each family is assigned a reunification support specialist that is responsible for assessing the parents' reunification needs and referring for supports; providing a service calendar in collaboration with the parent(s); holding monthly one-on-one meetings with the parent(s) to monitor progress; and providing updated progress reports for upcoming court hearings to the social worker assigned to help the family attain reunification. Services provided at the ARC include: parent and support groups; mental health services; housing; financial counseling; employment readiness and job attainment; case management; and a variety of supportive workshops.

Parenting Education and Support Groups and Parent Cafés

Parenting Education and Support Groups are designed to improve parenting skills and relationships with your children. These free parenting education and support groups provide a safe, confidential, and supportive environment. These support groups are for all families and DHS involvement is not required but some services may be court-required as a step towards reunification. There is a wide range of classes offered such as parenting with children in placement, general parenting classes open to the public, women's empowerment, incarcerated fathers and mothers, parenting for non-offending parents, and teenage parents.

Parent cafes are judgment-free spaces for parents to join together, talk, support, and learn from each other. Cafes feature guided open discussions and are held at the ten Community Umbrella Agencies throughout the City and are open to all parents and adults. Upcoming classes can be found HERE.

Evidence-Based Prevention Parenting Programs

The Evidence-Based Practice Team provides evidence-based behavioral and parenting interventions for parents involved in the child welfare system and the Philadelphia Community. Currently the team is providing Seeking Safety which is an evidence-based, present-focused model to help people attain safety from trauma and/or substance abuse. It can be conducted in group (any size) and/or individual modality. It is a model that directly addresses trauma and addiction, but without requiring the client to delve into the trauma narrative, making it relevant to a broad range of clients.

In addition to Seeking Safety, the Evidence-Based Practice Team will provide Connect: a trauma informed and attachment-based program for parents and caregivers, a structured 10-session manualized program delivered in a group format to parents and caregivers of preteens and teens with serious behavioral and internalizing problems. Connect aims to promote parental reflective function, emotion regulation, sensitive care, and parent-child mutuality and cooperation. Sessions introduce attachment principles that specifically focus on adolescence and parenting and include experiential and emotion-focused role-plays and reflection activities. The program integrates a trauma-informed, strength-based, and collaborative approach to promoting the development of new parenting skills and parent-child attachment security.

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