



PARENT SUPPORT OUTREACH PROGRAM

What is the Parent Support Outreach Program (PSOP)?

The Parent Support Outreach Program was developed to serve families of young children where there are concerns about child safety and well-being. This pilot project from the Minnesota Department of Human Services combines a \$3 million grant from The McKnight Foundation with \$3 million in federal funds and builds on the success of the Alternative Response Program. Otter Tail County is one of 38 Minnesota counties participating in the pilot over the course of the next several years.

Locally, Otter Tail County Human Services has partnered with the Otter Tail Family Services Collaborative through the Early Childhood Work Group, Caring Connections and the Family Outreach Program to offer home-based services and support to families enrolling in the program.

What does the Parent Support Outreach Program Offer?

The goal of this project is to ensure children's safety and well-being. Research shows that this can best be done through early intervention. This program is designed to offer help to families who are stressed and want help before a crisis occurs. Often times getting help early even for a short time can make a big difference for many families.

The program is also structured to connect families with the specific community services and resources they can benefit from, including housing, child care, transportation, support groups, parent education and child development activities.

Who is eligible for the Parent Support Outreach Program?

Families of children age birth – 10 who are reported to Otter Tail County Human Services for suspected maltreatment, but are screened out by the Human Services Child Protection Team because of lack of substantiating information.

- 1) Families of children age birth – 10 that are experiencing significant stress factors which may put their child(ren) at risk of maltreatment and who are self-referred or referred by staff of local programs or agencies (ECFE, Head Start, ECSE, FOP, Schools, etc.)

Who can I contact to find out more about this program?

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