

Rise Parent Advocate Training 2022 Program Report

What is the Parent Advocate Training Program?

While moving toward our vision of dismantling the system, Rise works to ensure that parents involved in the system right now have the support of a trained, life-experienced Parent Advocate.

Rise trains Parent Advocates to provide parents with information and support with navigating the system, advocating for their families, reunifying more quickly and then staying out of the system.



Highlights

- Parent Advocates are parents impacted by ACS who have been hired by foster and preventive agencies to support parents involved in the system. Rise training equips Parent Advocates with knowledge, resources, skills and peer networks.
- The role of Parent Advocates is being expanded and elevated within the system.

Accomplishments

- Provided training on Rise Visiting and Service Planning TIPS, Rise 90-day model to support faster family reunification, parents' legal rights, the history of child welfare, the parent advocacy movement, restorative justice circle keeping practices and trauma, toxic stress and self-care
- Parent Advocates valued connecting and learning with each other through training
- Completed two (Fall 2021 and Spring 2022) four-month cohorts training a total of 12 newly-hired Parent Advocates
- Hosted online support circles for graduates to continue to engage in peer support and build their resource networks



Parent Advocates who graduated from the training were surveyed about their experiences.

100%

learned how to create a safe space for parents

100%

learned how to use supportive language with parents in difficult times

100%

felt they accomplished the goals they set for the trainings

100%

learned how to speak up during meetings with other child welfare professionals

100%

learned how to help parents negotiate for services and resources