



**Rise's Peer Supporter Model**

**WELCOME EVERYONE**

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Co-Executive  
Director



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Parent Leader / Trainer



**Name and favorite person to talk to?**



**Check in**

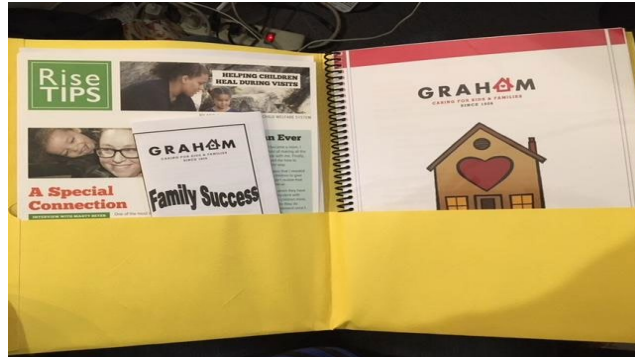


**Parent Leadership**



**Informing Parents**

**Rise's work with Parents!**



**Parent Advocates Program**



**Community Building**



## What Parents need?



# PARENTS' RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPROVING PRACTICE

- \* SAFETY

- \* KNOWLEDGE, CHOICE AND VOICE

- \* RELATIONSHIP-BUILDING

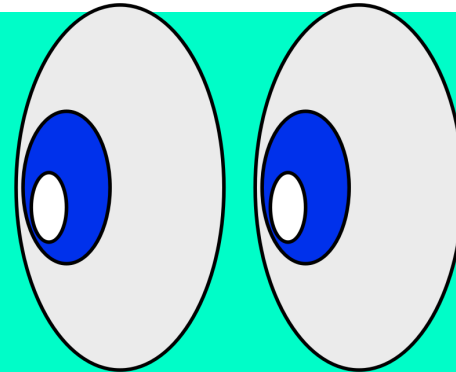
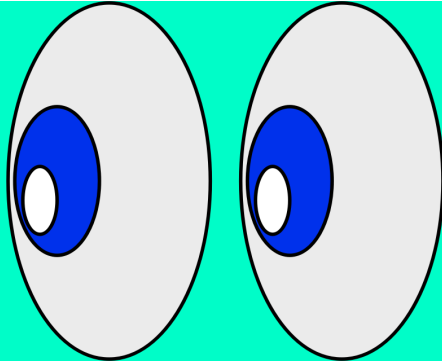
# The Change Game!



1. How long have you been working on the change?
2. What support(s) did you have to make the change?
3. What stopped you from making the change?



# What is a Peer Supporter?





# **Peer Model Program**

- **Intro of Peer Supporter Supporter/Principles of Peer Supporter**
- **Engagement Strategies Including  
Active Listening**
- **Trauma and Toxic Stress**
- **De Escalation /How to develop a safety plan**
- **Selfcare and Boundaries**
- **Navigating the School System**
- **Legal Services NYC**
- **NAMI mental health training**

# Elements of Peer Support

Peer Support is **VOLUNTARY**

Peer Supporters are **HOPEFUL**

Peer Supporters are **OPEN MINDED**

Peer Supporters are **EMPATHETIC**

Peer Supporters are **RESPECTFUL**

Peer Supporters facilitate **CHANGE**

Peer Supporters are **HONEST AND DIRECT**

## WHAT IS A PEER SUPPORTER?

**Start with the  
help parents  
say they need**

**Outside stress factors parents face**

**Some you may think are  
irrelevant in your work!**



# Losing jobs/stopping school

## Depression Quotes

It's a recession when your neighbor loses his job; it's a depression when you lose yours

Harry S Truman



# Little or no money for food

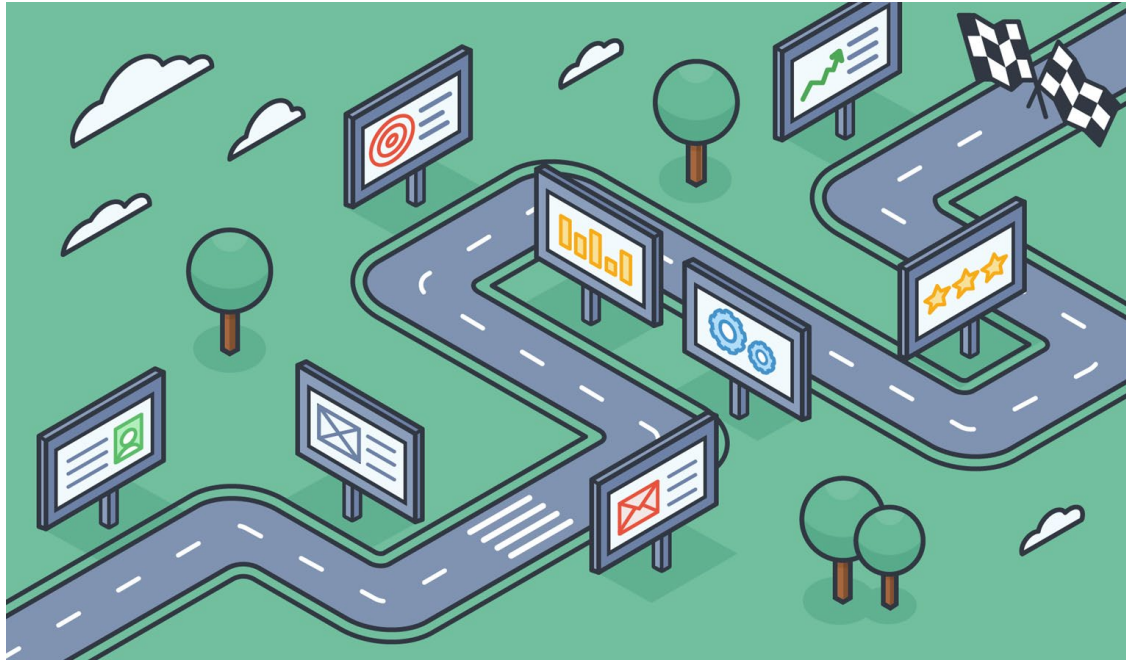


# Evictions



*My heart  
never knew  
loneliness until  
you went away.  
I'm missing you.*

# Roadmap to Reunification



BY ROBIN WILEY

Twelve years ago, when my son Caiseem was 5, he came home from foster care, where he had been since birth. Caiseem is the youngest of my four children. I've always felt a strong connection with each one of my children, but with Caiseem, something was missing.

dered what I could do bond with my son. I knew how to reach him, because of his experiences through many issues at home.

Caiseem would not talk

# IN OUR OWN WORDS

[VIDEO](#)



# REFLECTING TIME

WHAT DID YOU HEAR FROM PARENTS?

WHAT KIND OF PEER SUPPORT WOULD HAVE BEEN HELPFUL?

# Changing Dynamics with Parents

## Standoff

- Fear
- Anger
- Distrust
- Judgment
- Avoidance
- Assumptions





## Learning Together from Other Parents' Expertise

- Sharing Power
- “Person is not the problem”
- Curiosity and Openness
- Making an Invitation



## Problem-Solving Together

- Communicate Positive Intentions
- Clear Expectations
- Information from a Credible Messenger

**“If families had everything they needed to thrive,there would be fewer investigations by the family policing system taking place in the black and brown community. At Rise,we discussed what families need in their community. And how we could support them with getting the things they need and want.”**

**By [Keyna Franklin](#)**

**Families can flourish and grow  
and never return to child  
welfare involvement when they  
are supported and guided.**



