



CIRCLES OF PARENT LEADERSHIP

These circles of parent leadership show examples of different ways parents can grow.

PERSONAL LEADERSHIP

Get self and family to group. Participate by attending regularly, on time. Follow children's program rules. Act on ideas learned through group. Report back to group on successes and challenges. Share honestly and offer ideas and support to others. Participate in parenting classes or other educational activities as needed for personal growth. Take leadership role in own family. Advocate on behalf of self and children with schools, doctors, and other professionals. Facilitate family meetings to plan fun events or solve problems. Model appropriate discipline, self-control, active listening, compassion and compromise for children and others. Take responsibility for solving personal problems: e.g. mental health issues, drug/alcohol issues, anger management problems, etc. Practice forgiveness for self and others and know that we all make mistakes, even leaders.

LEADERSHIP WITHIN THE GROUP

Arrange/open meeting room or building. Arrange for supplies, e.g. snacks, handbooks. Put up signs directing participants to the room. Welcome others; be a greeter or "chair patter". Introduce new parents to children's program. Clean up after meetings. Pass out/explain material to new parents. Take calls from prospective members. Participate in fund-raising activities. Develop referral base. Keep group calendar of upcoming events. Call missing members. Initiate introductions at group. Read or ask others to read opening and closing statements. Lead meeting. Take attendance or keep statistics. Be a timekeeper during meetings. Facilitate members' transportation needs. Accompany other parents as their advocate. Organize group events. Participate in team meetings with facilitator and children's program leader.

LEADERSHIP IN THE ORGANIZATION

Participate in training facilitators, parent leaders, and children's program staff. Attend and present at conferences and meetings. Implement needs assessments and surveys. Advocate with local aldermen, legislators, town and tribal councils. Volunteer to be on a board or advisory council. Help develop fund raising events. Contribute special talents to organization: e.g. office skills, artwork. Develop publicity to general community: e.g. health fairs, PTA presentations, service clubs, faith-based groups. Participate in publicity to target audiences: e.g. parenting classes, health and welfare groups.

LEADERSHIP IN THE LARGER COMMUNITY

Promote informed citizenship by voting and assisting with voter registration. Promote issue awareness through letter-writing and e-mail campaigns, public forums both for those affected and change-makers. Run for office: PTA, school board, local, state or national government. Organize or participate in child abuse awareness and prevention events. Serve on community councils and agency boards. Partner with community agencies. Work with national organizations or legislators to formulate public policy. Volunteer to work with national organizations or be on a national board. Participate in civic and community activities e.g. neighborhood watch, scouting, faith-based groups.