Parent Support Outreach Program

Kelly Wooden & Jen Quarberg



In 2005, 38 counties agreed to participate in a PSOP pilot, which included a rigorous program evaluation. The PSOP evaluation showed strong improvement in family well-being, and a decrease in child maltreatment reports.

In 2013, the MN Legislature appropriated funds for statewide expansion of PSOP.

Counties receive funding based on the number of opened PSOP case management workgroups for the previous year. Funding in Winona is directed to staff time.

Criteria

- *Child under age 10 (If no child under age 10, can serve through similar program CW)
- *Parent/caregiver is pregnant
- *Risk Factors: Domestic Violence, Homelessness/housing concerns, Child behavior concerns, School/education concerns, Trauma exposure, Mental health concerns (Parent or Child), Parent/caregiver separation, Limited support system, Legal issues, Grief/Loss, Chemical use concerns (Parent or Child), Prior child protection history, Disability (Parent or Child), Medical concerns (Parent or Child), Low income/poverty, Parenting Challenges, Human/sex trafficking concerns, or other.
- *Designed to support families further upstream, prior to needing additional system response. Not appropriate for families already involved with child protection programs or immediately following child protection case management services. PSOP may be beneficial to families with past involvement with child protection.

What is PSOP?

The Parent Support Outreach Program (PSOP) is an early intervention program providing short-term voluntary support for at-risk children and families identified through screened out child maltreatment reports, community or self-referrals.

This voluntary services program can connect a family to support and assistance for many types of issues, which may include:

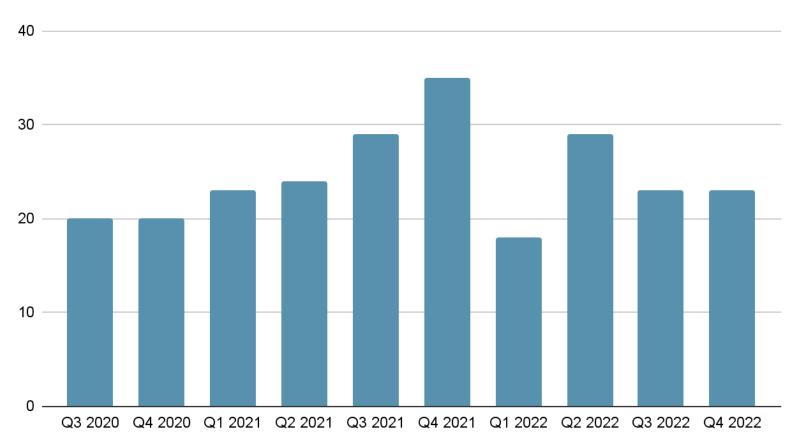
- Basic needs (food, clothing and housing)
- Family health concerns (medical care, mental and chemical health services)
- Parenting
- Transportation
- Child care
- Financial needs (budgeting and financial assistance)

The Parent Support Outreach Program focuses on a family's strengths and needs, and helps parents who want to do what is best for their children. This program can connect families with community resources that provide the specific kind of help families may want or need.

What does PSOP do?

- *County Benefits (application, turning in verifications, communication with financial teams, etc)
- *Housing Search and application
- *Referrals such as SEMCIL, Adult/Child Mental Health Case Management, Winona Advocacy Center, ECFE/ECSE, Help Me Grow, PIE, Waivered Services (CADI), SMRLS, FARR, Chemical Dependency Treatment, Ready Set School, Winona Volunteer Services, etc.
- *Coordination/communication with school
- *Material Needs: School supplies, clothing, furniture, toys, etc.
- *Teen Parent Program





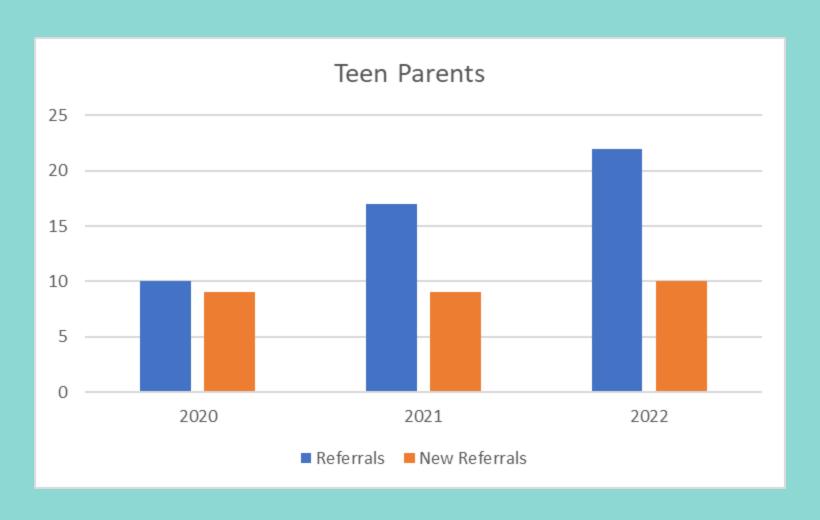


Teen Parent Program

Winona County Community Services and Winona Area Public Schools partnered to provide a circle of support around our teen parents. The goal of the program is to improve school attendance and graduation rates, improve self-sufficiency, improve teen birth and child outcomes, promote positive child health indicators, delay subsequent teen births, and interrupt the cycle of intergenerational poverty.

Parents age 21 and under are eligible for the program if they are enrolled in school or GED and willing to work with a social worker, maternal/child health nurse, and parent educator.

Parents who complete meetings with staff, attend school regularly, complete credits or graduate are eligible for incentive gift cards.





Graduations (Teen Parents)

Graduates in 2021-2022 School Year: 4

Teen graduates open since 2020: 10







Kelly & Jen completed the training to become National Child Passenger Safety Technicians.

*We can check to make sure car seats are installed correctly and teach families how to use and install a car seat on their own.

*We have access to free car seats through Medicaid programs if the family is eligible.

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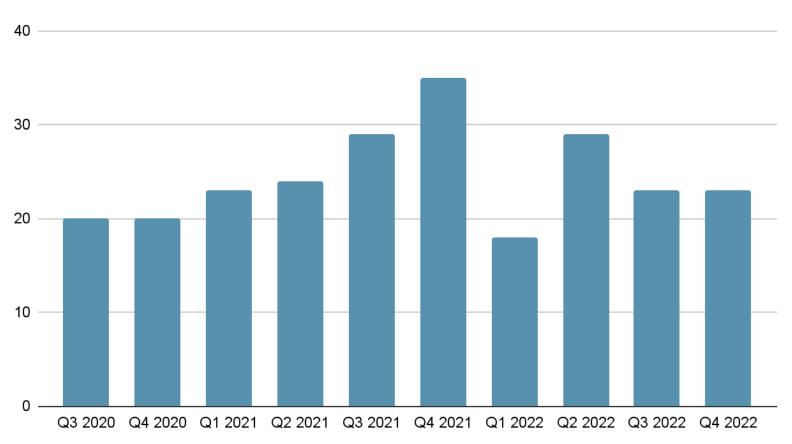
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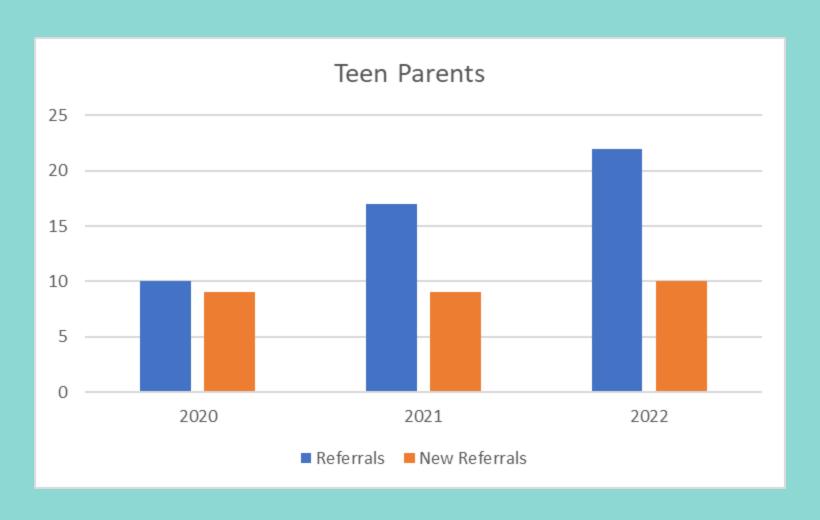


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