

# 2026 Minnesota Circle of Parents Virtual Training

## Register [{Here}](#) for all training



## Circle of Parents Orientation

The Circle of Parents model is a peer-led, mutual self-help, support group program. Group sessions offer a safe space for parents to share their experiences, learn from one another, and access resources that foster confidence and enhance family relationships. Implementing a Circle of Parents support group increases shared leadership throughout the community. Support groups also help create and strengthen prevention initiatives, as well as other local family programs and services. All groups are confidential, promote positive parenting, and are offered free to participants.

**Recording and Materials link:**

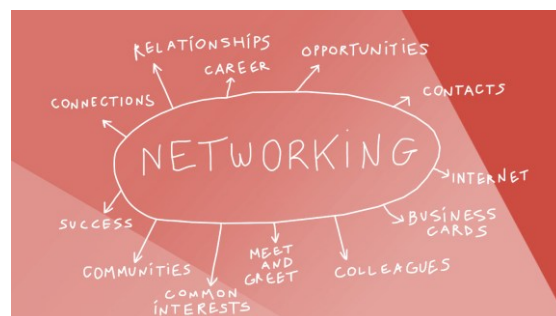
[{Circle of Parents Orientation}](#)

## Facilitation Skills – Part 1

You can work through each section at your own pace using our new online training system. Training sections include creating a safe, supportive, and welcoming space for learning, as well as developing the basic skills of facilitating peer-led, mutual self-help Circle of Parents groups. The focus is on shared leadership and family support, while ensuring the safety of children. Protective factors are supported naturally through co-learning and empowered leadership. This opportunity is ideal for new facilitators and serves as a valuable refresher course for current facilitators. **Registration is required.** Access Facilitation Skills Part 1 training [{Link}](#) and start today.



## Statewide Circle of Parents Quarterly Networking



FamilyWise offers a quarterly statewide networking opportunity to connect with other Circle of Parents facilitators and volunteers, enhancing your local support groups. Engage in discussions, share best practice ideas, troubleshoot problem areas, training needs, and/or opportunities, marketing, referral sources, and resources. Registration [{Link}](#)

**January 13 – April 14 – July 14 – October 13**

**9:00-10:30 am**

## Facilitation Skills – Part 2

This is the final step in becoming certified to facilitate a Circle of Parents group. During this in-person session, we will review the strength-based facilitation model, create a safe/supportive group environment, and continue building resiliency. You will also complete/submit the necessary background check paperwork and receive access to the password-protected Circle of Parents Facilitation Portal. This is a great opportunity to ask questions, practice your skills, and gain confidence before facilitating groups.

**Registration upon completion of Part 1**

**March 10 – June 9 – Sept 8 – Dec 8**

**9:00 – 11:00 am**

## Establish a Circle of Parents Children's Group Part 1

An integral part of Circle of Parents, children's groups provide developmentally appropriate skill-building activities that enhance children's confidence, self-worth, and social skills, while providing fun and enjoyment. Volunteers provide opportunities for children to enhance their self-esteem and learn non-violent problem-solving and conflict resolution through developmental cooperation. Children's groups provide an additional incentive for parents to attend Circle of Parents meetings.

***Registration upon completion of  
Facilitation Skills Parts 1 & 2***



## Establish a Circle of Parents Children's Group Part 2

This is the final step in becoming certified to lead a Circle of Parents children's group. During this in-person Zoom session, we will review strategies, mandated reporting, and supporting practices discussed in Part 1. Anyone working in the children's group must submit a background check to qualify. This session provides an opportunity to ask questions, review potential scenarios, and practice your skills.

***Registration upon completion of Part 1***

**Feb 10 – May 12 – August 11 – Nov 10**

**9:00 – 11:00 am**



**Social Work Continuing Education Units (CEUs) are available upon completion of:**

- *Facilitation Skills Part 1 & 2 (8 hours CEUs)*
- *Establishing a Circle of Parents Children's Group 1& 2 (6 hours CEUs)*

**Circle of Parents Contact:** [circleofparents@familywiseservices.org](mailto:circleofparents@familywiseservices.org)

