

PUTTING FAMILIES FIRST IN DC

Mayor Muriel Bowser's Families First DC initiative launched 10 Family Success Centers in Wards 7 and 8 in October 2020. The Centers are funded through 10 grants to community-based non-profits that are most familiar with the families and communities where the centers are located. The Families First DC network works with families to increase their overall well-being and the well-being of the community to give all families a fair shot in our rapidly changing city.

STRONG PARTNERSHIPS EMPOWER OUR COMMUNITIES

Place-based services at the 10 Family Success Centers are driven by close engagement with community stakeholders and community-based partnerships. Each Center has developed a Community Advisory Council that includes residents and stakeholders from the target neighborhood who help to determine services that will increase protective factors, mitigate trauma, fill in gaps in services to the local community, and empower families.

Families First DC empowers families by connecting them with local services and resources that will help them thrive. Referrals and direct, continuous engagement with partners are the foundation of success for families that connect with services through the Family Success Centers. Community partners also drive place-based service delivery at the Centers.



**WE'RE HERE TO SUPPORT EACH OTHER
WHILE WE EMPOWER FAMILIES TO THRIVE!**

When families connect with a Family Success Center they can expect:

- Referrals and engagement with services and resources that will help them thrive.
- Parent support, including learning and mentorship opportunities, as well as emphasis on developing stronger family-level communication
- Emotional wellness and mental health programming.
- Engagement and socialization with other families.
- Youth development opportunities, including employment, tutoring, and recreation.
- Much, much more, depending on the unique service array at the Center they connect with.

Partners can expect:

- Warm contacts and direct, facilitated referrals with families that can directly benefit from the services the partner provides.
- Welcoming environments to deliver place-based services with flexibility between virtual and in-person options.
- Service delivery that emphasizes a "whole-family, multi-generational" approach.
- Ongoing connection through a sustainable partnership.



RESPONDING TO THE NEEDS OF OUR COMMUNITIES

The coronavirus pandemic has impacted every family in our city in various ways—some families more so than others. The Family Success Centers are needed more than ever before. Investments are focused in areas of the city where deeper focus on place-based services by trusted community organizations with the backing of city agencies will help families thrive.

Ward 7 Centers and Organizations

- Benning Terrace/Benning Park: East River Family Strengthening Collaborative
- Clay Terrace: Sasha Bruce Youthwork
- Mayfair/Paradise: North Capital Collaborative
- Stoddert Terrace/37th Street: Life Deeds
- Benning Road & Minnesota Avenue: East River Family Strengthening Collaborative

Ward 8 Centers and Organizations

- Woodland Terrace: Smart from the Start
- Anacostia: Martha's Table
- Congress Heights: Far Southeast Family Strengthening Collaborative
- Washington Highlands: A Wider Circle
- Bellevue: Community of Hope

The Families First DC initiative is modeled after the Family Resource Centers that are members of the National Family Support Network (NFSN). Impact will be measured based on NFSN Standards of Quality. Families from anywhere in DC can access services and build new relationships at any of the ten centers.

Services are rooted in five “protective factors” to empower communities and families, modeled after work by the Center for the Study of Social Policy and the National Family Support Network.



PROTECTIVE FACTORS FOR FAMILY SUCCESS



PARENTAL RESILIENCE



SOCIAL CONNECTIONS



CONCRETE SUPPORT IN TIMES OF NEED



KNOWLEDGE OF PARENTING AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT



SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL COMPETENCE OF CHILDREN

LEARN MORE!

 cfsa.dc.gov/page/families-first-dc

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