

Services Offered

A FMP coordinator is available to families who are moving a loved one from an RHC to supported community living, and to those who are investigating such a move.

A Family Mentor:

- ✓ Listens to families' stories
- ✓ Explains community services and programs
- ✓ Suggests strategies for making the process successful
- ✓ Offers a checklist of assurances for vigilant involvement
- ✓ Is available to all families in any location
- ✓ Offers phone, e-mail and face to face meetings at the convenience of the family
- ✓ Is available after the move for ongoing questions and support
- ✓ Helps document the loved one's experience through photographs

Meet the Developmental Disabilities Family Mentors



(Kelly and her son Jordan)

Kelly Church

WA State Project Coordinator

425-679-1805

kellychurchfmp@gmail.com



(Kathy and her sister Tami)

Kathy Thompson

360-999-3441

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The Family Mentor Project



The Family Mentor Project (FMP) is a resource to support families and guardians through the process of moving a family member to the community from a Residential Habilitation Center (RHC) operated by the WA Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) or from a skilled nursing facility.

Project Coordinator Kelly Church's son Jordan has successfully lived in SL Start children's program supported in his own home for seven years.

Family Mentor Kathy Thompson's sister Tami lived at Fircrest and Rainier RHC for 54 years. Moving to the community in 2014, she is thriving in her own home supported by Kokua.

www.familymentorproject.info

Sponsored by SA Training Institute
and DDA Roads to Community Living

Testimonials

Christy is 30 years old. She lived at Frances Haddon Morgan Center for 19 years. Christy moved to her new home in the community in July 2011. She sees her mom more often now.



"I wanted to let you know how much help you and the Family Mentor Project have been to me and to Christy. The support and assistance the FMP offers is invaluable. I hope you know that what you do is appreciated!"
.... C & G (Christy and her mom)



"Thank you for being at my side. You were an enormous support to me and I was glad to have your expertise alongside me." ...SF



"Thank you so much for your help; we have been desperate and frustrated and did not know where to turn. It is so good to have someone who is listening and can help us. We want our daughter to move from the RHC, to live supported in the community close to family".RP



Some Benefits of Community Living

- ✓ Choice of location, often closer to family
- ✓ Many families believe their loved one is happier and enjoys life more
- ✓ Loved ones often show more independence and maturity
- ✓ Better access to a variety of medical specialists
- ✓ Increased family/staff communication
- ✓ Encouraged to personalize and decorate bedroom
- ✓ Space to acquire and enjoy personal possessions
- ✓ Warmth and coziness of a home in a quiet setting
- ✓ Choice of foods with home cooked meals at flexible times
- ✓ Regular access to many community activities
- ✓ Usually more money available for discretionary spending