Many families struggling with substance use and addiction often feel helpless, hopeless, embarrassed, ashamed and powerless. By speaking with someone who has “been there” and walked in their shoes, parents can learn how to stay connected to their loved one and get the support and encouragement they so desperately need.

Our Parent Coaching program utilizes a peer-to-peer, shared experience model using the Invitation to Change Approach created by the CMC: Foundation for Change. The approach combines evidence-based principles including Community Reinforcement and Family Training (CRAFT), Motivational Interviewing (MI), and Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT). Parent Coaches can help others:

- Understand substance use issues in non-judgmental, behavioral and contextual terms
- Focus on self-care by parents as a crucial aspect of the family change process
- Teach communication strategies to engage with their child and lower defensiveness
- Learn simple reinforcement strategies to help affect behavior change

To learn more about our Parent Coaching program, visit drugfree.org/coaching. If you’re interested in receiving peer-to-peer support, connect with our helpline to get started.