



EARLY CHILDHOOD MENTAL HEALTH CONNECTION

MOVING LIVES FORWARD

DOING THE BEST WE CAN

We've all had times where we get irritated... with our children, spouses, family members, friends, colleagues and even ourselves. Things don't go the way we plan and people don't do the things we want them to. It's so frustrating! Why can't my preschooler just wake up and get ready for school? Why is this a struggle sometimes? Or, why does my teenager make really poor choices and get into trouble? Why can't the people I work with just get their paperwork in on time? In our minds, it's not that hard to do certain things because we think there will be a specific outcome. We may not see any problems with doing things the way we think is best. It's easy to think how we feel and what we think is the best choice...and the only choice. But...have you ever stopped, looked around you and saw things through the eyes of your children, spouse, friends, family members or colleagues? Have you truly listened to them to hear what they are feeling and possibly going through? Let's take a moment and reflect...have you ever had a hard time getting ready in the mornings? Have you been able to make good choices ALL the time? Have you ever struggled to meet deadlines and the demands at work? The answer probably is...YES!

This is definitely true when it comes to being a parent. We have certain things we think our children should do, but we also have certain pressures we place on ourselves. There are times when you have a hectic morning and maybe you get frustrated and raise your tone with your kids in the car. Or when you are running behind and pick up your child late from soccer practice. With all of the pressures and unknown circumstances in our world right now, it's easy to feel frustrated, inadequate, and get down on ourselves and others. But, it's also more important than ever to also remember-you

are doing the best you can right now. Just like our children, spouse, friends, family members, and colleagues-they are all doing the best they can too. What may seem like simple, easy choices may be more difficult for the ones around us. Everyday things may feel overwhelming and stressful for them and to us. When we have the ability to reflect on the experiences of other people in our lives along with our own, we can see that we ALL struggle from time-to-time. We all have bad days, times when we are irritated, frustrated with the way things are going and just down right not in the mood to deal with it. But along with that, all of us are managing different circumstances, trying to be good parents and doing the best we can. So maybe the next time you feel your fuse running short with those around you, you can offer to help or ask what you can do together to make the situation more manageable. When you start getting down on yourself about being a parent, reach out for support or think of the positive things you are doing. Maybe set small goals with yourself and others around you so things can feel more doable. Remember...all of us are doing the best we can with what we have available to us.

Cheryl's Corner of Caring

Courage doesn't always roar. Sometimes courage is the quiet voice at the end of the day saying, 'I will try again tomorrow.'
(Mary Ann Radmacker)

MEET CENTENNIAL'S EARLY CHILDHOOD CONSULTATION TEAM



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Cheyenne, Elbert, Kit Carson,
Lincoln & Yuma

For additional support during
the COVID-19 Pandemic you
can call Centennial's
**COMMUNITY
SUPPORT LINE**

You can do this by calling your
nearest Centennial office:

Akron - 970.345.2254

Burlington - 719.346.8183

Cheyenne Wells - 719.346.8183

Elizabeth - 303.646.4519

Fort Morgan - 970.867.4924

Holyoke - 970.854.2114

Julesburg - 970.474.3769

Limon - 719.775.2313

Sterling - 970.522.4392

Wray - 970.332.3133

Yuma - 970.848.5412

Contact your local Centennial Mental Health Center for assistance with any Early Childhood need.

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