

Kitsap Strong is a community initiative to improve the health and well-being of all children, families, and adults in Kitsap.

KODY RUSSELL, MSW

Kitsap Strong, *Executive Director*

Kody Russell is one of 25 Washington State ACE Interface certified NEAR (neuroscience, epigenetics, ACEs, & resiliency) Master Trainer/Coaches. He is a talented and experienced presenter who has trained over 1,500 people in the NEAR sciences since being hired in April 2015.

Kody has over ten years of experience working with children and families in the child welfare system who have experienced significant trauma and struggled with the myriad of associated social and health problems; including mental health issues, substance use disorders, aggression, child abuse & neglect, anger, hostility, sexual behavior issues, homelessness, etc. Before being hired as the Kitsap Strong Project Director, Kody worked for the Department of Children & Family Services

(DCFS) for over seven years as a Child Protective Services (CPS) Investigator, Department of Licensed Resources - Foster Home Licensor, and as a Family Team Decision Meeting Facilitator/Supervisor. Prior to working for DCFS, Kody was a supervisor at Ryther Child Center in Seattle, a behavioral rehabilitation center for “Sexually Aggressive Youth”.

Kody received his Bachelors in Psychology from Seattle University in 2000 and a Master’s in Social Work from Eastern Washington University in 2014. He uses his education and lived experience working with children and families through the child welfare system to add deep meaning and life to the neuroscience, resiliency, and trauma-informed curriculum.

