



We do raise children together!

More information?

 [Buurtgezinnen.nl](https://www.buurtgezinnen.nl)

 [buurtgezinnen.nl](https://www.buurtgezinnen.nl)

Talk to a coordinator?

Contact

[buurtgezinnen.nl](https://www.buurtgezinnen.nl)

What does Buurtgezinnen do?

Our motto is 'We do raise children together'. Buurtgezinnen connects families facing challenges with caring and supportive families in their local community.

This way, children receive extra love and attention while parents receive valuable support when they need it most.

Both families make agreements together with the Buurtgezinnen coordinator about this support, such as for example:

- take care of a child one (half) day a week
- taking a toddler to swimming lessons
- having a baby to stay over for a weekend
- offer a quiet homework spot to an adolescent
- attend parent evenings at school
- help celebrate children's birthdays
- do something fun together with the children



Who can register?

Parenting is beautiful, magical, and sometimes also very difficult. How nice it is if you then can appeal to dear people nearby. Those that take in your children when you're stuck. We will help you in your search for this form of support. The coordinator is your point of contact and guides your match at the beginning. You don't have to do it alone, rely on Buurtgezinnen! Not only you will get some time for yourself, and there is some extra attention for your child, you also learn to know nice people in the neighbourhood with whom you can bond, if that's what you want.



Looking for family support

Are you interested in becoming a family supporter? At Buurtgezinnen, we're always looking for compassionate individuals or families who are willing to lend a helping hand to those who can use some support. During the introduction with the coordinator of Buurtgezinnen various matters will be discussed together. What support can you offer? Which child(ren) suit(s) your family? And how much time do you have available? Then the coordinator decides which families suit each other best, makes the match and guides both families for a maximum of two years.

The bond that develops between families varies per match, from close friendship to ordinary pleasant contact. Many of our family supporters indicate that providing help has enriched their lives.



Who can become a family supporter?

A supporting family can be a family with children, but that is not necessary. Also couples with children living away from home, grandparents and adults without children are very welcome.



We do think however it is very important that you have experience with children.

Buurtgezinnen is looking for families nearby, which:

- want to mean something on a voluntary basis to another family that can use some support
- enjoy meeting different people, cultures, and lifestyles
- have an open attitude and don't judge quickly
- have a few hours weekly or every other week available
- can provide a Certificate of Good Conduct (Verklaring omtrent Gedrag) (this will be arranged by Buurtgezinnen)

Dylan's mother must do everything by herself and wishes a father figure for her son. Supporting father Paul is now going to the football matches with Dylan. They both enjoy that very much. Paul enjoys the time together. Dylan is happy that he can share his passion for football with someone and in the meantime his mother relaxes.



Abel is a widower. His daughter Iris has down syndrome. He wishes Iris a bigger world, where she can safely gain new experiences. A supportive family registers with four daughters. Every Tuesday afternoon Iris will play there. The youngest daughter takes care of Iris and thinks it's great.

Mimi and Amir fled from Syria with their children. The family tries their best to learn the language and to integrate. They feel safe but are also homesick. Two of their children visit an older couple regularly. The kids call them grandpa and grandma. Birthdays and holidays are celebrated together.



Cynthia wanted to help others. Susan really needed that help. Through Buurtgezinnen they were introduced to each other, and they could get along immediately! Now Cynthia takes care of Susans son regularly. There is a beautiful bond created between the two mothers and their children. Cynthia's daughter enjoys it to cuddle Susan's baby.

Method

Buurtgezinnen has a coordinator in every municipality (or district) who brings families together and guides them. She is the contact person for all families.

As soon as you register via the website, she will contact you to get acquainted. She wants to know exactly what support you need. Once that is clear, she will look for a suitable supporting family in the area.

The coordinator consults with the supporting family about what kind of support this family can offer.

After the match you keep in touch. Every six months the coordinator talks to both families: is everyone still satisfied and does everyone want to continue? Experience shows that families quickly build up a good relationship. After a maximum of two years the families continue 'independently'.

Register immediately?

Go to buurtgezinnen.nl

The coordinator in your municipality will contact you to discuss what Buurtgezinnen can do for your family.

REGISTER

The 7 steps

Introduction to the coordinator

Searching for and talking to potential support families

Matching

Both families get acquainted

Trial period (2 months)

Evaluation of the trial period

Semi-annual evaluation

After a maximum of two years, the coordinator will let you go. In the meantime, she is available for help with questions.

