

Parent Leadership Training



Our training program is:

- ✓ Free.
- ✓ Presented by parents of children with special health care needs.
- ✓ Offered in selectable modules to fit your group's needs.
- ✓ Available in English and Spanish, in person or virtually.

Participants have said:

“ I feel more confident in my ability to participate more effectively in group settings and realize I have a leadership role. ”

“ The information and skills I developed today will allow me to be a more confident and more effective leader in the groups in which I already participate. ”

“ I hope to be a stronger voice in my community. ”

For more information or to schedule trainings for your group, please contact:

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Module Overview

Each module is approximately 90 minutes.

Module 1: Parents as Leaders

- Define leadership as it relates to participants and their current and future roles as parent leaders.
- Describe the critical roles that parents have played in the history of education of children with special needs.
- Share personal concerns regarding parents' roles as leaders and advocates.

Module 2: MAPS (*Making Action Plans System*) for Leadership

- Complete MAPS for the purpose of tracing one's history, dreams, fears, qualities, strengths, and needs as a parent leader.
- Use MAPS results to create an action plan related to leadership development.

Module 3: Critical Elements of Collaboration

- Define collaboration as it relates to parent leadership and collaboration in a variety of settings.
- Learn about the defining characteristics and principles of collaboration.
- Define the elements of an effective collaborative teaming process.
- Identify the stages of team development.

Module 4: Stages of Group Development

- Learn about the four stages of team development.
- Recognize the characteristics and challenges encountered at each stage of development.
- Outline strategies for team leaders and other members to help teams move through the stages of team development.

Module 5: Tips for Leading Effective Team Meetings

- Learn strategies and processes that teams can use to structure and facilitate effective meetings.

Module 6: Listening and Asking Clarifying Questions

- Define the importance of listening and asking clarifying questions in collaborative team settings.
- Demonstrate the ability to use the skills of listening and asking clarifying questions in role play situations.

Module 7: Understanding Conflict

- Define various approaches to dealing with conflict.
- Understand the uses, strengths and limitations of various approaches to conflict.
- Reflect on personal strengths and challenges in relation to conflict, and the ways in which these can enhance or serve as a barrier to effective leadership and collaboration.

Module 8: Re-Framing Agendas: From the Personal to the Policy Level

- Identify the difference between a personal concern and a policy concern.
- Demonstrate the ability to re-state personal concerns as policy issues.
- Demonstrate the ability to describe your policy issue to a person whose support you need to make changes in policy.

Module 9: Solving Problems in Groups

- Identify the steps needed to engage in effective group problem-solving.
- Participate in a group problem-solving activity related to participants' issues.

Module 10: Understanding Diversity

- Identify ways each of us represents some form of diversity.
- Define the benefits and challenges of collaboration involving people from diverse backgrounds.
- Consider ways to promote the benefits of diversity in future collaborative situations.