

How can an active Parent Advisory Committee enhance Programs' work with families?



How can Programs prepare to share leadership with Program participants?

What steps are needed to create and sustain an effective Parent Advisory Committee?

OVERVIEW

A Parent Advisory Committee is a leadership group of Program participants that provides input, guidance, and feedback to a Program on a regular basis. An active Parent Advisory Committee can be a highly effective method of supporting meaningful parent engagement, developing parent leadership skills, and supporting a Program's success.

Yet many Programs report struggling with managing Parent Advisory Committees. Funders often expect Programs to have them, yet less frequently ensure Programs have training and support to implement them well. Parents serving on these committees sometimes feel that their participation and contributions are not useful or valued.

The National Family Support Network has developed this training to address these challenges and maximize the great potential of Parent Advisory Committees. Whether Programs are exploring setting up a new Parent Advisory Committee, or seeking to strengthen an existing one, this training will provide staff with the strategies and tools to develop an effective one.

The training is conducted by a NFSN staff person who has developed successful Parent Advisory Committees. There is also an option for it to be co-trained with an experienced National Parent Leader who has served on various Parent Advisory Committees. The co-trainer option models and reinforces the effective staff-parent partnerships that the training focuses on and provides the valuable perspective of a parent leader.

WHO SHOULD PARTICIPATE

Managers and Direct Service staff who work with, or would like to develop, a Parent Advisory Committee. *Key leadership of the Program should participate in order to be able to implement the model effectively.* Teams are highly encouraged.

PARTICIPANTS WILL:

- Identify the benefits and challenges of parent leadership development
- Learn the key steps and timeline to create and sustain a Parent Advisory Committee
- Begin action planning for developing or strengthening a Parent Advisory Committee



STANDARDS OF QUALITY IMPLEMENTATION

Participation in this training will prepare Programs to meet the following High Quality Indicators of the nationally-adopted Standards of Quality for Family Strengthening & Support:

- **Family Centeredness 1.1:** Program's design supports partnering with families to have an active role in the development and implementation of the Program.
- **Community Building 2.1:** Program implements a formal structure to partner with families to develop their leadership skills, and to facilitate opportunities for using those skills in the community.

For information about the Standards of Quality for Family Strengthening & Support please see:

www.nationalfamilysupportnetwork.org

COST AND LOGISTICS

The cost of this unique 1-day training for up to 40 participants is as follows, which includes materials and trainer travel within the continental United States:

Option 1 - Staff Trainer: \$4,000 for National Family Support Network (NFSN) Members and \$4,500 for non-Members. Two consecutive days: \$7,500 for NFSN Members and \$8,000 for non-Members.

Option 2 - Staff and Parent Leader Co-Trainers: \$7,000 for NFSN Members and \$7,500 for non-Members. Two consecutive days: \$9,500 for NFSN Members and \$10,000 for non-Members.

For both options, the host network/organization will provide the training venue as well as continental breakfast and lunch for participants.

CONTACT

To explore bringing the training to your area, please contact Samantha Florey, NFSN Director of Training, at (858) 354-4462 or samantha@nationalfamilysupportnetwork.org.