START Parent Leadership Development Training

Serving on Groups That Make Decisions

Webinar

July 14, 2016

www.servingongroups.org

The Parent Leadership Development Training is funded by The New Jersey Department of Children and Families’ (DCF) Division of Family and Community Partnerships (FCP) Race to the Top–Early Learning Challenge Grant (RTT-ELC)
Meet the Presenters

Dianne Malley
Michele Tyler
Monique Dujue Wilson
Karen Antone
Tatsiana DaGrosa
Debbie Esposito
Experts Unite!

Use the Question/Chat Box to share one thing that you know about decision-making groups.
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For more information contact SPAN:
973-642-8100 ext. 123 or start@spannj.org
www.servingongroups.org

GUIDEBOOK FOR SERVING ON GROUPS

Guidebook Sections

INTRODUCTION

SECTION 1 OPPORTUNITIES TO GET INVOLVED

SECTION 2 TYPES OF GROUPS

SECTION 3 PROCESSES GROUPS USE

SECTION 4 TOOLS GROUPS USE

SECTION 5 TIPS AND STRATEGIES FOR GROUPS

SECTION 6 UNDERSTANDING DATA AS INFORMATION

SECTION 7 THE ROLE OF FAMILIES ON GROUPS

SECTION 8 SKILLS FOR SERVING ON GROUPS
Overview of Serving on Groups

- Developed due to an identified need
- Collaborative effort by stakeholders
- Audience
  - Family Members
  - Students
  - Educators
  - Groups
  - Community Members
  - Administrators
Objectives

- Be able to self-reflect on your experiences, knowledge, skills, and interests as individuals and how you can benefit a group/team.

- Build an understanding about types of decision-making groups.

- Learn about the principles that guides group practices and the processes groups use.

- Gain strategies to help you confidently and actively participate in a decision-making group.
What brings you here today?

School

Family

Community

Leadership
Family Engagement & Leadership

- To support and increase participation of families on decision-making groups
- Research on family involvement in the decision-making process have found:
  - Children have better outcomes when families are involved
  - There needs to be support for families

Research of Dr. Joyce Epstein & others

Serving on Groups That Make Decisions
Benefits to (Shared) Decision Making

**Results for Families**
- Awareness and input on policies
- Feeling of ownership
- Shared experiences and connections with professionals and other families

**Results for Professionals**
- Awareness of family perspectives
- Increased confidence and ability to partner with families
- Acceptance of family representatives in leadership roles

Adapted from studies from J. Epstein & others
Opportunities to Get Involved

Questions
- How can I get involved?
- How can I share in decision making?
- Who can serve on these groups?
- Where do I begin?

Steps
- Self-Reflection
- Awareness of Possibilities
- Options to Explore
Dreams

**DREAMS:** What dreams do you have in relation to your personal and professional development as a group or team member?

- What do you hope to accomplish in one year? 5 years? 10 years?
Shared Decision Making

“Decision-making means a process of partnering, of shared views and actions toward shared goals...not just a power struggle between conflicting ideas.”

-Dr. Joyce Epstein
Guiding Principles of Shared Decision-Making

- Equal Partners
- Collaboration
- Shared Responsibility
- Representation
- Information Sharing
- Shared Vision
- Producing Results
Parents as Partners in Shared Leadership

Meet people “where they are” on the issue.
Shared Leadership brings people together to build support for addressing the issue.
Shared Decision Making Means

Solving complex issues that need various perspectives to find solutions.
Shared Leadership Means

A commitment to working in this way because we believe collaborative work is better and more sustainable work.
Shared leadership translates complex challenges into ways that individuals can contribute.
Shared leadership helps people ‘lead in place’ regardless of role, position, or title.
Who can serve on groups?

**Interested Individuals**

- Especially if the group’s decisions will affect them personally
- BUT choose your opportunity wisely
- AND consider the TIME & ENERGY needed to serve
Time & Energy Inventory

Percentage of time spent each week on Life Activities

- Working - job: 23.8%
- Caring for the Home: 17.9%
- Driving: 7.1%
- Sleeping: 29.2%
- Exercising
- Volunteering
- Taking care of...
- Time for self
- Shopping/Errands
- Church/Religious...
- Hours left

Serving on Groups That Make Decisions
Where to begin?

- Learn about available resources and services
- Find an issue you care deeply about
- Connect to a group with the authority to create or influence change
- Prepare yourself to serve
[Enter a question for staff]
Types of Groups

Questions

• What are the different functions of groups and member roles?
• What is a…
  • Governing group?
  • Advisory group?
  • Leadership group?
  • Planning group?
  • Evaluation group?
  • Practice group?
What Makes Decision-Making Groups *Unique*?

- Decision-making authority
- Issues
- Meeting structure
- Data used
- Input and feedback
- Processes
- Membership
- History
- Time since formation
  - Diversity of perspectives
Types of Member Roles

- Leader – sets the agenda
- Facilitator – runs meetings
- Secretary – takes notes
- Timekeeper – keeps the group on task
- Treasurer – keeps track of funds
Functions of Groups

- Governing
- Advisory
- Leadership
- Planning
- Evaluation
- Practice
Governing

Activities

- Establish by-laws
- Govern an organization
- Develop policies
- Establish goals
- Communicate with the public & funding sources
- Employ & evaluate executives
- Negotiate with employee groups
- Allow for community participation

Examples

- School Board
- City Council
Advisory

Activities
- Represent a broader group of people
  - Seek out the views of those affected
- Advise on needs
- Bring awareness to issues
- Help develop action plans
- Make recommendations
- Serve as a resource

Examples
- Committee
- Panel
- Focus group
Leadership

Activities
- Initiate awareness of an emerging or systemic issue
- Collectively work on targeted issues
- Conduct listening sessions and public forums
- Actively plan and implement strategies
- Attract a collective voice
- Monitoring entities (watchdog)

Examples
- Associations/Organizations/Coalitions
- School improvement teams
- Initiatives/Grants
Planning

Activities

- Research and study a specific issue
- Assess needs and develop priorities
- Make recommendations
- Design information and conduct training
- Develop or select a curriculum
- A channel for communication and feedback
- Plan and carry out an activity

Examples

- Committee
- Workgroup
- Action team
- IFSP/IEP team

Serving on Groups That Make Decisions
Evaluation

Activities
- Create an action plan
- Collect, display, and analyze data
- Report results
- Continuous monitoring for progress and improvement

Examples
- Formal stakeholder groups
- Service improvement teams
- Focused monitoring
Practice

Activities

- Provide a structure to communicate, learn, & act
- Continually reach out to others
- Create opportunities for networking & sharing
- Enhance participation and connections
- Discuss emerging or systemic issues
- Promote interagency connections
- Share information and solutions
- Promote the spread of best practices

Examples

- A learning circle
- A community of practice
Types of Groups - Activity

- Governing
- Advisory
- Leadership
- Planning
- Evaluation
- Practice
Time for questions
[Use hands for unmuting!]

Your Participation

- Please continue to submit your text questions and comments using the Questions panel.
- Please raise your hand to be unmuted for verbal questions.
Download Resource Page


- **START Project Up Coming Events Page:** Check here for upcoming events and links to register for trainings [http://tinyurl.com/start-upcomingevents](http://tinyurl.com/start-upcomingevents)

- **CCYC Parent Leadership Development Training:** [http://tinyurl.com/CCYC-Capacity-Building](http://tinyurl.com/CCYC-Capacity-Building)

- **SPAN:** Statewide Parent Advocacy Network, your 1st Stop for information and resources. For individual assistance, please call 800-654-7726. [http://www.spanadvocacy.org/](http://www.spanadvocacy.org/)
Serving on Groups That Make Decisions

ALL Webinars are from Noon to 1 pm

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Thank You

Website: [http://www.spanadvocacy.org/content/start-project/](http://www.spanadvocacy.org/content/start-project/)

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