



National PLACE Annual Report July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017

Our Mission:

Empowering families and family-led organizations to advocate for enhanced, meaningful parent involvement and leadership in all policy decision-making that impacts services for children and families

Our Purpose:

We are a national non-profit organization – composed of family-led non-profits - committed to helping family-led organizations and individual families acquire the knowledge and skills needed to effectively “sit at the table” and influence the policies and decisions that impact the lives of children, youth, and families, including families that face the greatest challenges due to disability, special healthcare needs, poverty, and discrimination.

Our members:

National PLACE has 45+ national, state, and local member organizations, including 3 national organizations (Children’s mental health, Parent to Parent, Disability); 25 state organizations; and 17 local organizations. Our member organizations focus on a wide array of issues, including family/parent-to-parent support (45); early childhood (40); education (35); and health/mental health (25).

Our Accomplishments

INFLUENCING POLICY

Submitted National PLACE positions and statements on the following policies, regulations and white papers:

- The Importance of Ensuring Families Are at The Table White Paper
- Joint US ED and US DHHS Early Childhood Family Engagement Policy Statement
Led to specific revisions to policy statement based on our recommendations
- Maternal and Child Health Bureau Performance Measures (41 sign-ons)
Led to specific revisions to policy statement based on our recommendations
- Maternal and Child Health Bureau Block Grant Application revisions
Led to specific revisions to policy statement based on our recommendations as well as meeting to discuss our recommendations in greater detail
- Maternal and Child Health Bureau Health Equity Blueprint

- Led to specific revisions to blueprint based on our recommendations*
- ESSA Regulations Related to Family Engagement (20 sign-ons)
 - Disproportionality in Special Education
 - Revisions to Equity Assistance Center Regulations
 - WIOA Regulations

Collaborations & solicitations of signers on policy statements of relevant partners:

- ESSA Regulations Related to Juvenile Justice and Child Welfare
- Disproportionality in Special Education
- Amicus curiae brief to US Supreme Court in Endrews F.

Meetings with federal policymakers and administrative officials:

- Early Childhood Family Engagement Policy Statement and Training/TA Products Working Group (US Departments of Education and Health and Human Services)
- Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary Colleen Rathgeb (US Department of Health and Human Services Administration for Children and Families Office of Early Childhood Development)

Membership in the Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities

- Access to immediate legislative information and policy opportunities
- Participation on Education, Health, and Rights Task Forces

DEVELOPING ADVOCACY AND LEADERSHIP CAPACITY

Curating collection of web-based resources:

- Research, guides, and information on importance of and strategies to engage families and family-led organizations in child welfare, early childhood, education, health, mental health, and policy advocacy
- Archived webinars (see below)

Offering a series of content-rich webinars:

- Is It Lobbying? Is It Not? (open to all family-led organizations)
- Effective Grassroots Advocacy (members only)
- The Power of Stories in Policy Advocacy (members only)
- Families in Jeopardy (members only)
- Developing an Effective Public Policy Advocacy Plan (members only)
- Engaging Diverse Parents in Public Policy Advocacy (upcoming) (members only)
- Using Social Media in Public Policy Advocacy (upcoming) (members only)

Individual consultations with family-led organizations on policy advocacy.

GROWING THE MOVEMENT
Spreading the word!
Identifying national partners and champions!