



P2P & Families: Resources to Support Your Family Engagement Efforts

**Supporting Georgia families of children
with disabilities & special healthcare needs**



Why Are We Here Today?

- ★ Who we are
- ★ What we do
- ★ How we can help you engage families in your district
- ★ How you can help us

**WE want to partner with YOU
to help YOU and the parents in your community**



Who we are . . .

- ★ **We are Georgia's Parent Training and Information Center (PTI)** – providing information to families so that they can be equal partners in the educational decision-making process.
- ★ **We are Georgia's Family to Family Health Information Center (F2F)** – providing information to families so they can make better health-related decisions.
- ★ **We are the Central Directory for Georgia's Babies Can't Wait (Part C) Program** - assisting families of children in need of early intervention services with information and resources.
- ★ **We are the State Affiliate of Parent to Parent USA** – providing research-based best practice emotional support.



Who we are . . .

- ★ **We partner with Georgia's Department of Public Health (DPH)** – providing Parent Partners in up to 7 public and private health/specialty clinics across Georgia.
- ★ **We partner with Georgia's Department of Education (DOE)** – providing data, information, resources and training to parents/families, Parent Mentors, district and state personnel.
- ★ **We partner with Georgia's Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD)** – providing individualized assistance, resources and training to parents/families.



What we do . . .

**We encourage families to work
with systems . . . not *against* them!**



***And we ARE Parents! We are not paid
advocates or attorneys!***



What we do . . .

7 Core Services

- ✓ Special Needs Database
- ✓ Roadmap to Success
- ✓ Supporting Parents
- ✓ One-on-One Assistance
- ✓ Navigator Project
- ✓ Free Trainings
- ✓ On-Line Opportunities



Return to our [Home](#) page



Special Needs Database

*Over 6,300
Resources in 192
Categories!*

Service Provider Search

Parent to Parent of Georgia has made every effort to make provider searches accessible to everyone. Please contact us at info@p2pga.org if you have had problems accessing this page. If you need help finding a provider, call us at 1-800-229-2038

To search by provider name, use this search box below (results will display at bottom of page).

Or to search by criteria, follow the numbered steps below.

- ① Select from the General Services Category, then from the Specific Service (*required fields).
*General Services Category: *Specific Service:
- ② (Optional) Use these additional search criteria to narrow your results.
County(where provider offers services):
Ages Served: Disabilities Served:
Hours of Operation: Interpreter Services/Languages:
Wheelchair Accessible: ☐ Payment:
Accessible by Public: ☐ Services at Other Sites:
Transportation: ☐
- ③ Click Search to find providers matching your criteria.
- ④ After searching, click on Organization name (shown below) to display additional details.
- ⑤ To print, check box next to selected providers and then "Print Selected Providers". This will open a PDF document in a new tab which you can save, email or print.

[Give us your feedback!](#)

Search Results

Access the Database
24 Hours Per Day

Visit our Website
www.p2pga.org

Call Toll Free 1-800-229-2038



Special Needs Database

	Total Searches	Total Providers	Categories
2015/2016	16,450	5,000	150+
2016/2017	18,591	5,000	150+
2017/2018	18,646	6,385	192

Call Toll Free 1-800-229-2038



How can WE help you?

- ✧ Call us & tell families to call us!
- ✧ Visit www.p2pga.org, and conduct searches yourself!

How can YOU help us?

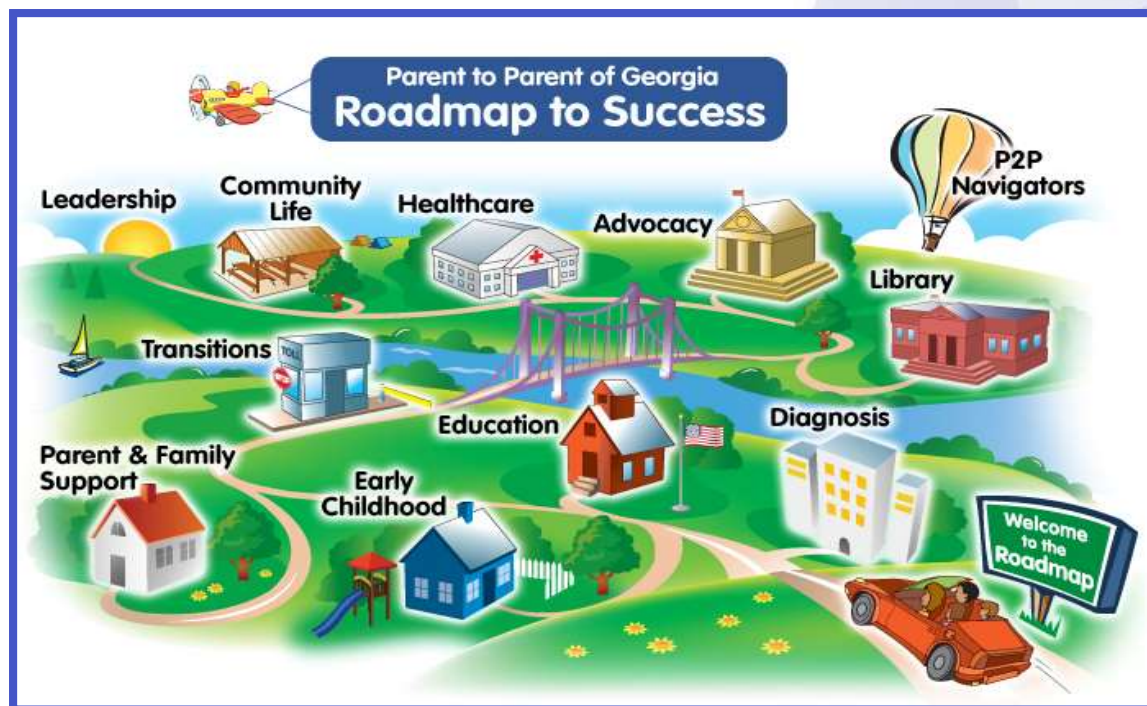
- ✧ Contact us if you see resources need updating!
- ✧ Contact us if you know of resources not included!



P2P Roadmap to Success

*Tons of
information!
All clickable...*

- *Reading materials*
- *Videos*
- *Links to useful sites*

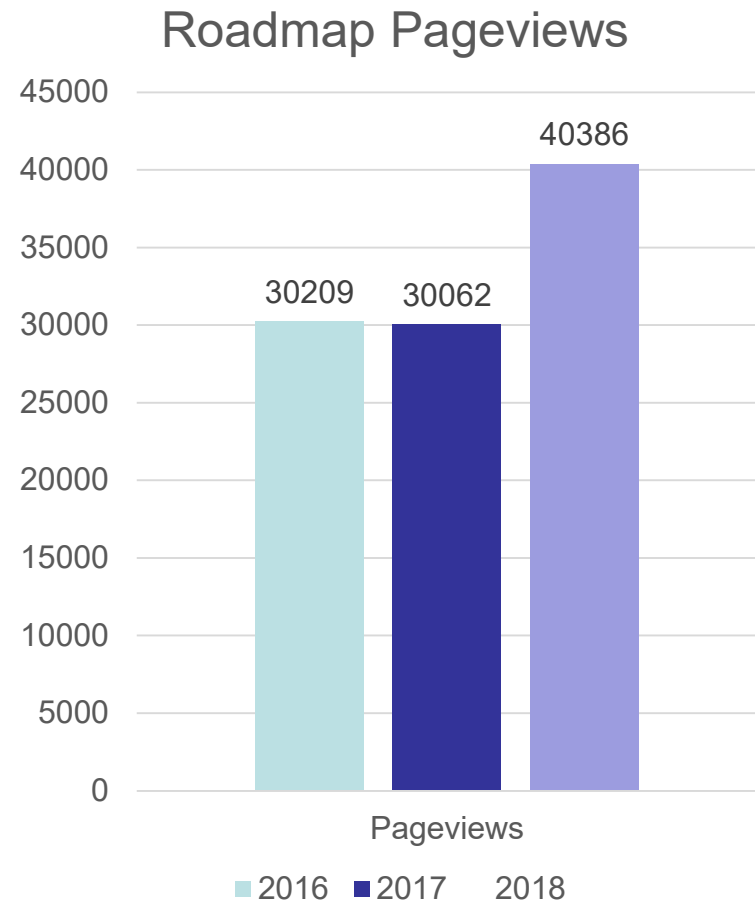
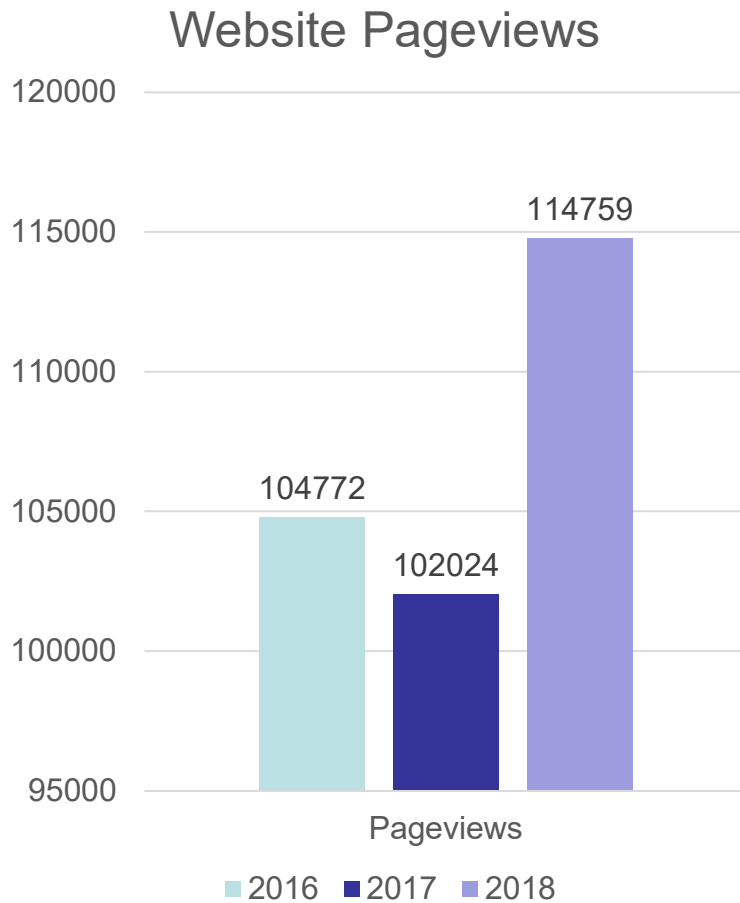


Access the Roadmap 24 Hours Per Day

Visit our Website roadmap.p2pga.org

Call Toll Free 1-800-229-2038

Website & Roadmap Odometers





DOE Fact sheets on Roadmap & Website

- Making Sure your Preschooler Starts on a Path Towards High School Graduation
- Making Sure your Elementary School Child Starts on a Path Towards High School Graduation
- Keeping Your Middle School Student on a Path to Graduation
- Keeping Your High School Student on a Path to Graduation
- Assistive Technology
- Discipline
- Due Process
- Extended School Year (ESY)
- Functional Behavior Assessment (FBA)



DOE Fact sheets on Roadmap & Website

- Formal Complaints
- Helping Your Child with Disabilities with Homework
- Individual Education Program (IEP)
- Initial Evaluations for Eligibility
- Mediation
- Person-Centered Planning
- Preparing Your Child with Disabilities for Kindergarten
- Reevaluations and Independent Educational Evaluations (IEE)
- Transition from Babies Can't Wait to Preschool
- Transition from High School



How can WE help you?

- ★ Call us & tell families to call us!
- ★ Visit www.p2pga.org/roadmap and navigate yourself!

How can YOU help us?

- ★ Contact us if you see information needs updating, links aren't working!
- ★ Contact us if you would like to recommend additions!



*Trained Parent
Volunteers across the
state! Great source of
Emotional Support!*



Supporting Parents

We train caregivers to support other families when they need it...

We can match parents in a number of ways, including:

- ✧ child's disability
- ✧ medical condition
- ✧ specific educational issue
- ✧ health issues
- ✧ child's age

Call Toll Free 1-800-229-2038



Supporting Parents

What Parents Tell Us After a Match...

On scale of 1 to 5...	2016-17 Data	2017-18 Data	2018-19 Data
I found P2P staff to be helpful in arranging my Supporting Parent.	4.67	4.77	4.83
It was easy to get connected or be connected with my Supporting Parent.	4.38	4.55	4.61
The actual time spent with my Supporting Parent was useful.	4.48	4.43	4.59
The match met my expectations.	4.29	4.25	4.46
Because of the match, I feel better able to support my child.	4.16	3.96	4.23



How can WE help you?

- ✧ Call us & tell families to call for a match!
- ✧ Family members can be trained to offer this support to other parents!

How can YOU help us?

- ✧ Spread the word to families!
- ✧ Help legitimize the need for emotional support!



Help based on family needs, from simple to intensive assistance available!



One-on-One Assistance

Talk to another PARENT, trained on latest practices, laws, and trends!

Have access to Bilingual staff and resources!

Receive individualized and customized help with:

- ★ EDUCATION issues
- ★ HEALTH issues

Call Toll Free 1-800-229-2038



Who Calls Us.... And Why?

Number of Calls for Individual Assistance (2018/2019)	6,016
Top 3 Diagnoses of Children (per parent report)	Autism Spectrum Disorder Speech-Language Learning Disabilities
Top 3 Reasons for Calling (per parent report)	IEPs Eligibility/Evaluation Behavior/Discipline
Race/Ethnicity of Callers	Caucasian – 43% African American/Black – 39% Hispanic – 12% Asian – 2% Other – 4%



How can WE help you?

- ✧ Call us & tell families to call us!
- ✧ We can provide a wide continuum of assistance in many languages!

How can YOU help us?

- ✧ Spread the word to families!
- ✧ Help ensure information we provide is accurate and timely!



*Parent Leadership
Training and Practice!*

Navigator Project

Volunteer Parent
Leadership Program of
P2P

Training and performance
expectations at each
level

Designed to build
collaborative community
leaders

Call Toll Free 1-800-229-2038



Navigator Project

Ambassadors	Navigators	Total Parent Leaders
161	19	173



Support Groups

	# of Groups	# of Meetings	Average # of families reached each month
2015/2016	12	114	123
2016/2017	9	92	75
2017/2018	12	103	114
2018/2019 (6 months)	15	60	115



How can WE help you?

- ✧ We can connect you to local parents!
- ✧ We can provide training to families whom you recommend!

How can YOU help us?

- ✧ Recommend families to the Project!
- ✧ Support existing volunteers and Teams!
- ✧ Promote our efforts with your colleagues!



Free Trainings

P2P Provides

- ★ The trainer/trainers
- ★ Full curriculum including PowerPoint and handouts
- ★ Fliers for the host to use
- ★ Advertising on our calendar of events

Just pick up the phone and our staff can come to you!



Call Toll Free 1-800-229-2038



P2P Trainings...2-hour sessions

Education

- ★ A Brief Overview of Special Education
- ★ Parental Rights
- ★ Effective Communication
- ★ Inclusion in Schools

Assistive Technology

- ★ Assistive Technology for Youth
- ★ Assistive Technology for Young Children

Transitions

- ★ Transition at Age 3
- ★ Transition from High School
- ★ Keys to Help Your Teen Get A First Job

Health Care

- ★ Medicaid and Home and Community-Based Services
- ★ Medicaid and Care Management Organizations (CMOs)
- ★ Transition to Adult Healthcare



P2P Trainings...other options

Interactive 4-hr Workshops

- ★ Understanding the School Discipline Process
- ★ Focusing on a Vision and Strengths to Get to Measurable Goals
- ★ Dream Bigger, Aim Higher: Empowerment from Infancy to Adulthood

Trainings for Youth (Co-taught by an adult and a youth with a disability)

ENCORE! *Planning the Road Trip of a Lifetime!*

- ★ An 8 module series designed by young adults with disabilities.
- ★ Helps students begin to prepare for their future after high school.

Transition to Adult Healthcare

- ★ An interactive training with lots of role-playing and activities
- ★ Helps students begin to prepare for managing their own healthcare.



Training Enhancements

Updated Training within the last year

- Georgia Medicaid Basics and CMO
- I Can Do That (Assistive Technology)
- I Want to Do That (Assistive Technology – young children)
- Peace Love and Harmony

New curricula

- Attendance - Why does it matter?- 2 trainings
- Georgia Medicaid Basics
- Georgia Medicaid & KB Waiver



Our Most Requested Training Topics...

1. Medicaid
2. Peace, Love and Harmony (Effective Communication)
3. Transition to Adult Healthcare
4. Intro to IDEA
5. Parent Rights



How can WE help you?

- ✧ Call us & schedule a training!
- ✧ We provide accurate and meaningful information in a variety of formats.

How can YOU help us?

- ✧ Encourage families and professionals to attend our trainings!
- ✧ Suggest OR train on a topic via our webinars!



Online Opportunities



facebook

Pinterest

P2P Impact
Awards

twitter



P2P NEWS EMAIL BLASTS

Visit us at www.p2pga.org

Social Media

	2016	2017	2018
Facebook Followers	3,653	4,287	4,954
Twitter Followers	627	688	730
Email List Subscribers	6,535	8,696	9,491
Facebook Groups *	3	4	4

* Facebook Groups: Transition Group for Parents, Transition Group for Youth, Hispanic Group, Navigator Project Group





Family Engagement

What We Know and What Can We Do Differently!



Family engagement refers to the systematic inclusion of families in activities and programs that promote children's development, learning, and wellness, including in the planning, development, and evaluation of such activities, programs, and systems.



Source: U.S. Dept. of Health & Human Services/Dept. of Education's
[Policy Statement on Family Engagement in the Early Grades](#)



- Parental involvement in education is the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving students' academic learning and other school activities. Parental involvement helps ensure that the following occur:
- Parents play an integral role in assisting their children's learning.
- Parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their children's education at school.
- Parents are full partners in their children's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making and on advisory committees to assist in their children's education

No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, 20 U.S.C. §9101 (32) (2002); U.S. Department of Education. (2010). *Elementary & secondary education*. Retrieved from <http://www2.ed.gov/policy/elsec/leg/esea02/index.html>



WHAT DO FAMILIES NEED TO PARTNER WITH SCHOOLS?



Parents become engaged and emerge as parent leaders when they...

- Feel accepted, encouraged, and supported by other parents and professionals
- Are recognized for their successes and contributions
- Receive positive feedback and reinforcement
- See other parents like themselves taking on leadership roles

[Family Leadership Project](http://familieslead.org/index.php/what-family-leader/)

<http://familieslead.org/index.php/what-family-leader/>



Top Barriers to Family Engagement

- Lack of time
- Childcare
- Fear of repercussions if they raise a concern
- Not enough information or opportunities to be involved



Additional Barriers to Family Engagement We Hear

- Transportation
- School staff seem too busy
- Negative memories of own school experience
- Child doesn't want parent to contact school
- Unsure how to communicate with school



WHAT SYSTEMS CAN DO TO SUPPORT PARENT ENGAGEMENT





Do You Support Parent Engagement and Leadership?

- Do you create opportunities for parents to become informed, organized, and work actively as a parent advocate for ALL children?
- Do you empower parents with the skills and knowledge they need to become more actively engaged in the educational lives of their children?
- Do you provide leadership opportunities for ALL parents, especially to the underrepresented, and seek to change parent attitudes toward becoming involved in their child's school?

Answering YES to any of these questions means that you are creating a positive environment for family leaders to flourish



What Can You Do?

- Ask a parent to volunteer taking on a specific role that is compatible with what you know about his/her individual experiences, expertise, or skills.
- Establish leadership roles that parent leaders can progress towards and move into.
- Provide opportunities to:
 - Attend and present at trainings/conferences
 - Serve on committees or task forces
 - Participate in staff and family development activities
 - Plan special events
- Some parents may not see themselves as leaders; therefore, you may need to encourage them to get involved and to take on a leadership role. A personal invitation let's the family know that you value their involvement and recognize leadership traits in them



WHAT P2P CAN DO TO SUPPORT YOUR PARENT ENGAGEMENT EFFORTS



What Can We Do?

- Recruit Parent Leaders for initiatives and projects
- Provide information and training so parents and families are informed and ready to participate
- Direct families to learning opportunities and leadership development programs that will build their skills
- Help you spread the word about what's going on in Georgia, at the State DOE and in your district



**Alone we can do so little;
together we can do so much.**

-- Helen Keller



P2P & ME!

***Thank you for listening!
Remember,
help is just a phone call or click
away...***

**Mitzi Proffitt
Director of Support Services**

Mitzi@p2pga.org

800-229-2038

www.p2pga.org