

Outreach & Mentoring to Parents of Children (ages 0-3) with Disabilities:

Connect parents to Bright Start, community resources, parent support groups, parent education, and transition planning.

Liaison Support for School-Age Children:

Provide parent-to-parent mentoring. Gather information to understand a child's disability, its effects at school & home, parents' concerns, and current situation at school.

THE ROLE OF THE PARENT / SCHOOL LIAISON

Foster a Positive Outcome Between Parents and School Personnel:

Negotiate solutions to parents' concerns or complaints in order to ensure a *free & appropriate public education* for students with disabilities.

Attend & Participate in IEPs & Other Meetings:

Serve as a neutral party to resolve parents' concerns through access of information & compromise on both sides. Model appropriate participation & communication.

Promote Parent Involvement in Special Education:

Prepare parents for IEP/504/other meetings by explaining specific terminology, helping to document concerns and understand evaluations, and communicate with the school.

Bilingual Parent Education & Training:

Increase knowledge of the special education process, parents' rights under IDEA, the IEP/504 document, effective communication, and other topics of interest to parents.