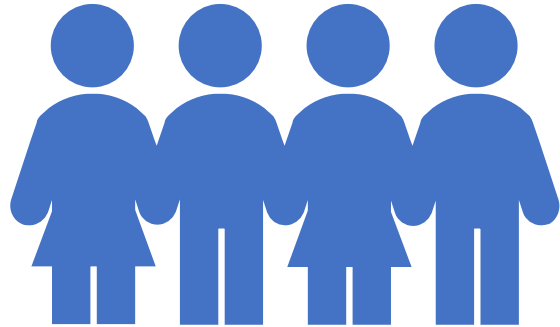




National Parent Support Provider Certification Orientation

Definition of Parent Support Providers



- Parent Support Providers (PSPs) are primary caregivers who have the “*lived experience*” of being actively involved in raising a child who experiences emotional, developmental, behavioral, substance use, or mental health challenges. PSPs have experience navigating child-serving systems to access services and supports. PSPs have received specialized training to assist and empower other families who are raising children with similar challenges.

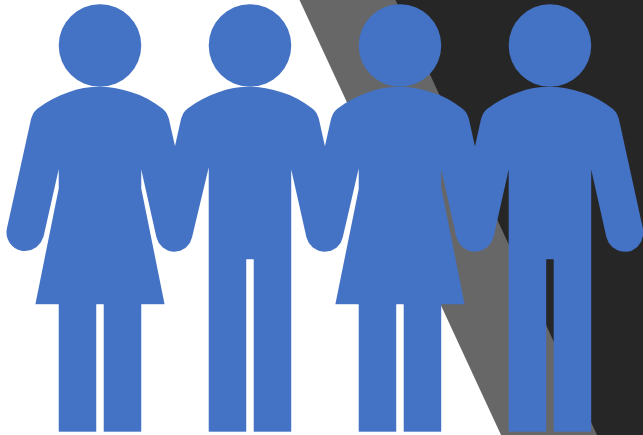
Who Are Parent Support Partners

- Parents/caregivers of youth with behavioral, emotional, mental health disorders and/or intellectual, developmental disabilities including autism
- Parents with first-hand experience and knowledge to support family engagement, navigation, and knowledge of systems and resources
- Parents who have the ability to use personal experiences and knowledge to expand opportunities for family choice and voice
- Parents who can partner and engage parents, professionals, and system partners

The national certification initiative evolved through the hard work and dedication of a myriad of individuals from across the United States who came together to work collaboratively to create a professional certification for Parent Support Providers.

The National Certification Initiative

WHAT IS NATIONAL CERTIFICATION



- **National certification was developed to provide a structure for individuals who were performing peer support services to become certified**
- **National certification was developed through the work of subject matter experts from across the country**
- **National certification was developed utilizing rigorous standards**
- **The national certification exam was designed by a psychometrician with input from numerous families**

How Certification Developed

- In 2007 the National Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health began the process of developing a national certification for Parent Support Providers
- In 2012, the pilot test was launched
- The cornerstone for this work continues to be the principle of Lived Experience



Current Core Competencies

Why we need to review and stay current

To ensure our competencies and the certification exam reflect the current needs of families and youth and work taking place in the field to support them

To ensure the competencies reflect the knowledge, skills and abilities CPSPs need to provide high-quality parent peer support

To be sure National Competencies are reflective of what the states' have identified as the competencies important in their states