

## Parent Leadership and Advocacy Training

### *Training* *Parent Leaders:*

- Who will be skilled in communication techniques to affect change
- Who will possess effective advocacy skills at both the personal and system levels
- Who will be knowledgeable about issues, programs and policies affecting persons with disabilities
- Who will have skills in serving as consultants, setting agendas, running meetings and partnering with agencies and organizations in their communities
- Who will link with consulting, advisory and professional opportunities in the community
- Who will have a portfolio that can be applied toward employment in the field of disabilities or toward college study in a related field

## For More Information Contact:

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**UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT HEALTH  
CENTER**

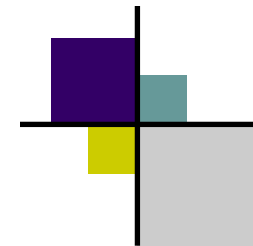
**A. J. PAPPANIKOU CENTER FOR  
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**The University of Connecticut  
A.J. Papanikou Center for Excellence  
In Developmental Disabilities  
Education, Research and Service**

## Parent Leadership And Advocacy Training Project



***A 36 Hour Leadership  
Training Program for  
Parents of Children with  
Disabilities or Special  
Health Care Needs***

# The Parent Leadership and Advocacy Training Program

## What Is Parent Leadership and Advocacy Training?

This training will develop a core of strong parent leaders who can improve the lives of children with disabilities or special health care needs and their families in Connecticut.

The training program is thirty-six hours and is designed to provide participants with skills to partner for systems change at local, regional and state levels. Graduates of this training will partner with agencies and providers on local and state councils, boards and committees to improve services and programs.

Each of the modules is focused on a specific topic with related learning objectives. Trainer materials in each module include all forms for recruitment, PowerPoint presentations with talking points in the notes, handouts, evaluation materials, homework assignments and instructions for group activities.

Participants are required to complete all six sessions to receive a certificate from this program.

## What Will Be Covered in the Training?

### Module One

- History of the disability and parent movements
- Overview of policies affecting persons with disabilities

### Module Two

- The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act
- Individualized Education Program (IEP) / Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP).

### Module Three

- Transition
- Adult services and independent living
- Guardianship

### Module Four

- The legislative process
- Effective strategies to work with policy makers

### Module Five

- Health care financing
- Medical Home
- Effective strategies to access care

### Module Six

- Effective communication strategies
- Parents as advisors
- Skills to run a meeting
- Effective advocacy strategies
- Ethics
- Life experience and college credit

## Other Information

**Class Size:** There are no more than 25 participants per class.

**Modules:** Each module is six hours. The training can be in six 6-hour sessions or twelve 3-hour sessions.

**Cost:** There is no cost for this training.

## Guidelines for Participants

- **Come on time.**
- **Come to all sessions.**
- **Come prepared.** Each module includes a three minute presentation by each participant on a topic related to the session.
- **Participate.** All training is a combination of lecture and activity.
- **Evaluate.** Each session includes pre/post test to help us evaluate the training, and some follow-up surveys to help us know how our training has impacted the graduates. We expect all participants to help us evaluate the training.