Empowering Parent Leadership
Through the FRIENDS National Parent Advisory Council (PAC)

What is the PAC?

The FRIENDS Parent Advisory Council (PAC) provides overall program direction and guidance to the activities of the National Center for Community Based Child Abuse Prevention. The PAC provides the NC for CBCAP staff with consultation by sharing their experience and expertise in child abuse prevention and family strengthening.

PAC History & Activities

• 2006: five parent leaders are recruited by FRIENDS to assist in the development of a Parent Leadership Guidebook and a diverse FRIENDS Parent Advisory Team (PAT) was officially established
• 2008: The PAT changes its name to PAC (Parent Advisory Council) to better reflect the group’s role
• 2014: PAC members create “February is National Parent Leadership Month” resources which are updated for annual distribution
• 2016: PAC members establish a Commitment to Serve and active / mentor / alumni term limits
• 2017-18: The PAC collaborates with Spinn Creative to record their experiences. Sharing the Journey: Voices of Parent Leaders is a collection of audio and animated clips, including 2 in Spanish, on topics including the protective factors, neglect prevention and parent leadership & engagement
• 2020-21: The PAC develops an Orientation and Reference manual to support onboarding and serve as a resource for all members

Roles and Opportunities

- Publish and disseminate editions of the Parents and Practitioners Newsletter
- Identity Parent Leadership Month Resources for CBCAP
- Serve on FRIENDS and Partner workgroups, committees or expert panels as requested
- Participate in activities held at the state level, annual calls, new state lead orientations, on site training and technical assistance
- Take minutes and/or co-facilitate the monthly PAC meetings
- Assist with planning and implementation of CBCAP Peer Learning Calls, Workshops, Online trainings and action planning
- Review e-learning courses, web site content and new trainings
- Assist in identifying mechanisms to create, support or enhance meaningful parent input and leadership

PAC Roles and Responsibilities

- Serve on at least one committee or workgroup as requested by FRIENDS NC for CBCAP
- Attend a minimum of 9 monthly PAC meetings via phone / computer per year (75%)
- Communicate with CBCAP SLA once a year (i.e., participate in your state’s annual call)
- Meet all required deadlines

PAC Commitment to Serve

When funding permits, attend and participate in the annual CBCAP Grantee Meeting and retreats as scheduled

Researchers and Practitioners

- Padres y profesionales

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