



***Helping Parents Help Their Children***  
***The Parents' Empowerment Academy: Professional Parent Advocacy Training***  
***Paterson, NJ***

***Empowering the Parent Team***

NJPC is offering a FREE five-week Professional Parent Advocacy Training program for parents, grandparents, foster parents, adoptive parents, and other caregivers. Parents and caregivers attending the training are given the opportunity to strengthen their knowledge of the systems that serve their families, their rights and responsibilities within those systems, and the advocacy, professional, and collaborative skills needed to successfully negotiate those systems. Parents will become better able to advocate for themselves and their communities, resulting in increased access to appropriate care and treatment for all children. Professional Parent Advocacy is approved for foster, adoptive and kinship training credit. Lunch will be served and transportation stipends are available. Early registration is recommended.

**Location:** The Church of Jesus Christ the Lord, 140 Lawrence Place, Paterson, NJ 07501  
**Time:** 9:00am to 3:30pm  
**Instructors:** Dr. Helene Robbins, NJPC Advisory Board; Sydney Rose, Youth, Special Education Advocate, PPAT Graduate, NJPC; Jill Seropian, Parent, NJPC Board Member, PPAT Graduate; Kathy Wright, Parent, Executive Director, NJPC; Consultant, National Technical Assistance Center for Children's Mental Health, Georgetown University; Consulting Pool, National Cultural Competency Center, Georgetown University.

**September 12**

Introduction to Professional Parent Advocacy  
Empowering the Parent Voice: Motivation & Assertiveness  
Conflict Resolution Skills & The Power of Persuasion  
Empowering vs. Enabling  
Professionalism & Communication Skills

**September 19**

Navigating the Special Education System & the IEP Process  
Developing a Transitional Plan  
Zero Tolerance & IDEA – Individuals with Disabilities Education Act  
NCLB – No Child Left Behind Act

**September 26**

Understanding Childhood Mental Health Challenges & the DSM IV  
How Knowledge of the Brain Influences Adult/Child Interaction

**October 3**

Understanding the Child Welfare System & Family Involvement in DYFS  
Strengthening the Juvenile Justice System through Family Involvement  
Cultural Competency & Diversity in the Child-Serving Community  
Collaborating with Agencies Dedicated to Children & Families

**October 10**

Empowering the Parent Trainer-Train the Trainer

**TBA**

Graduation

***Empowering the Statewide Parent Movement***

Parents and caregivers are encouraged to use their newly-trained skills to deliver Parent Advocacy Workshops in their local community with the support of NJPC and other certified parents throughout the state.



To register, or for additional information, call Jessica at 1-866-560-NJPC, fax the registration form to 973-989-8867 or email [jessicaa@njparentcaucus.org](mailto:jessicaa@njparentcaucus.org).

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State Zip \_\_\_\_\_

County \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Parent \_\_\_\_\_

Provider/Professional \_\_\_\_\_

***Training is made available through funding from OJJDP!***