

What is the Parent-School Partnership Program?

The Parent-School Partnership program is designed to assist students with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) to reach their academic and functional potential in the educational system.

Families will be connected with a Parent Mentor in their area who is also a parent of an individual with ASD.

The program strives to build collaboration between parents and school staff, recognizing that both are essential partners in the education of students with ASD.

Parent-School Partnership Objectives

- To facilitate partnerships between parents of students with ASD and school personnel.
- To strengthen mutual respect and understanding between parents and school personnel.
- To assist parents and school personnel in guiding each student with ASD toward knowledge and independence.

Support for Families

- Provides families with information and resources about ASD.
- Helps families understand special education rights and responsibilities.
- Helps families establish positive working relationships with school personnel.
- Encourages families to be more active participants in the student's education.
- Provides support to the referral process with other agencies.
- Attends school based meetings with families.

Parent Mentors are not attorneys and cannot provide legal advice. Families that need legal representation are encouraged to contact an attorney who specializes in special education law.

Support for Schools

- Encourages collaboration and teamwork between school personnel and families.
- Acts as a resource for schools on issues relating to ASD.
- Helps school personnel to involve parents in the educational process.
- Provides information to schools.
- Accepts referrals from the school to the Parent-School Partnership program.

The Parent-School Partnership program has been assisting families of students with autism spectrum disorder understand the special education process for over 20 years. Our Parent Mentors serve families throughout South Carolina. Please contact us to be connected with a mentor in your area.

What is Autism Spectrum Disorder?

Autism spectrum disorder (ASD) is a lifelong developmental disability that typically appears during early childhood. Individuals with ASD exhibit difficulties with social interaction, communication, repetitive behaviors and self regulation. Autism is defined by a certain set of behaviors and is a “spectrum” disorder that affects people differently and to varying degrees.

More than 6 million people in the United States have some form of autism. ASD is one of the most common developmental disabilities and the fastest growing. (CDC) Yet the majority of the public, including some medical, educational and vocational professionals, are still unaware of how ASD affects behavior.

The South Carolina Autism Society offers DDSN Case Management Services. Please contact our office for more information.

The mission of the South Carolina Autism Society (SCAS) is to equip those affected by Autism Spectrum Disorder with knowledge and support to maximize their quality of life.

Contact us:

Main Office

806 12th Street
West Columbia, SC 29169
803-750-6988
803-750-8121 Fax
scas@scautism.org
www.scautism.org



Participant



SOUTH CAROLINA
AUTISM SOCIETY

Advocate, Engage and Inspire

Parent-School Partnership Program

A Team Approach