

MODEL AGREEMENT

Family Leadership and Engagement Initiative Partnership Agreement

The goal of this Family Engagement and Leadership Initiative is to involve the voices and lived experiences of families in improving and strengthening North Carolina's birth to five early childhood system. Working closely with agencies and programs in your community, family leaders will help develop approaches to engage with and learn from the adults in a child's life and then draw on that information to work together to help programs better serve families.

In the process, the goal is that you as a family leader will build your knowledge about the early childhood system and grow your own leadership skills to advocate for your child, your family, yourself, other families in the community, and for a better, stronger, early childhood system. The leadership program will take place over 18 months, from XXXXX to XXXX.

Nobody knows the needs of families with young children as well as family leaders who are or have recently experienced the joys and challenges of raising a family. Families are directly impacted by decisions made in our communities, at the state legislature in Raleigh, and in Washington, DC, but don't always have a chance to give feedback on how decisions can impact programs and how these programs work for families.

Decision makers and program leaders need to hear from YOU! As a family expert, you can provide a unique perspective, needed feedback, and creative ideas. Together, we'll build a better experience for families with young children in our communities.

COMMITMENTS: What Family Leaders can expect from us:

- Receive Stipend of \$XXXXX (paid as a lump sum? In installments?)
- Gain valuable leadership skills
- Gain knowledge of how early childhood systems operate in our community
- Build connections with community partners
- Join a welcoming meeting environment where we value your input as the experts you are
- Regular check ins with a mentor
- Materials distributed in advance of the meetings to review at your own pace
- Support and guidance as needed with your engagement activities



WHAT WE EXPECT FROM FAMILY LEADERS:

- Attend and actively participate in XXX meetings and check in sessions lasting XXX amount of time
- Read the materials provided prior to the meetings
- Actively participate in discussions
- Commit to using your experiences to help build a better early childhood system for families
- Let us know ahead of time if something comes up and you are unable to attend a meeting

We hope you'll participate in each meeting and take part in as many activities as possible. We will check in with you on a regular basis to see how the program is working for you, any barriers you may be experiencing, and how we can best support your participation. We will meet you where you are at. Please stay in touch and let us know what works for you and your family.

I have read and understand the commitments and expectations of participating in this family leadership initiative.

Signature