

Parent Partners – *From a Seat at the Table to Setting the Agenda*



EHDI Conference 2020



Introductions



Heidi Klomhaus – AZHV Executive Director



Najwa Ghattas – AZHV GBYS Coordinator



**Liliana Herrera – AZHV Board Secretary
and Parent Guide**



Lylis Olsen – State EHDI Coordinator

Objectives



Identify three challenges of partnership



Identify opportunities in your state EHDI system



Identify three opportunities for change

Background

History

- **The EAR Foundation of Arizona**
- **EHDI Coordinator**
- **Parent Support**

HRSA Directives

- **Engage Parents**
- **Build Parent Leadership**
- **25% of funding**
- **Next HRSA grant**

Paradigm Shift

How do we do this?



Successes

Increased parent commitment

- Participating in grant writing
- Developing logic model, work plan and budget
- Systems development

Increased knowledge of the system

- Understanding the components of grant writing
- How our activities fit into the overall system
- A more global overview

Increased collaborations

- EHDl meetings
- Independent relationships with other agencies
- Negotiations with state agencies to change policy

Challenges to Making the Change

Shift in Mindset – NOT THERE YET!

- Need to build trust both ways
- Getting invited to the table in order to help set the agenda
- EHDI partners not ready to hand over “control”
- Acknowledgement of the movement toward parent leadership and engagement

Buy-in from EVERYONE

- We are not *JUST* parents
- Parents are trained in other professions
- Parents receive training in unbiased support
- Ability to represent different viewpoints

Parents not feeling empowered

- Finding parents ready to LEAD
- Learning how to tell your story

Opportunities in your EHDI System

Build relationships

- **Meet other key players**
- **Attend meetings**

Join Committees

- **Every state has an Early Intervention committee, a Parent Training & Information center, Office Children with Special Health Care Needs**

Meet your state legislators

- **Know who represents you**
- **Keep track of current bills**
- **Make an appointment, bring your child**

EHDI Stakeholder Meetings

- **Meet your state EHDI coordinator**
- **Attend stakeholder meetings**

Make the Change

Meet with your funders

- **Help write the grant, be an active participant**
- **Shape the MOU, don't just sign it**

Program design and implementation

- **Input in anything that affects our kids**
- **Be involved**
- **Make Decisions**

SHOW UP

- **Be prepared**
- **Be engaged**

**THANK
YOU!**

Heidi Klomhaus executivedirector@azhv.org

Najwa Ghattas nghattas@azhv.org

Liliana Herrera lherrera@azhv.org

Lylis Olsen lylisolson@msn.com

www.azhv.org

1-866-685-1050