

2019 GaPMP Kickoff Conference
A 20/20 Vision for Family Engagement
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2019

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Pecan Tree Galleria	Registration	
8:30 AM - 2:00 PM	Room R	SELDA	New Directors Training
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Masters Hall	Implementation Manual	Overview of new Implementation Manual chapters
2:00 PM - 4:45 PM	Masters Hall	<p>Opening General Session-Visualizing Family Engagement in the Transition Process for Students with Significant Disabilities: Perspectives from a Scholar of and Former Recipient of Special Education Services Tracy Rackensperger, Ph.D.</p>	<p>Transitioning from high school to adulthood is a important step for students with significant disabilities. However, when students with significant disabilities exit secondary education, they face a high probability of not being independent (with or without support). People who report high satisfaction with life also report high levels of family involvement in their lives. (Goldberg, Higgins, Raskind, & Hernman, 2003). Family involvement is one component affecting positive postschool outcomes for people with disabilities (Landmark, Ju, & Zhang, 2010). This session will cover how families should be engaged to support students with significant disabilities to successfully transition from school to inclusive communities</p>
		<p>Kyleigh Kramlich, student</p>	<p>Kyleigh will share how her ability to communicate has impacted her life in school and in community.</p>
		<p>ESP Hipsters: Their Vision for Victory!</p>	<p>The Hipsters are a ragtag group of baseball players, seeking the opportunity to play just like everyone else. Join them on their journey to the playoffs!</p>
3:15 PM - 3:30 PM	Pecan Tree	BREAK	

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2019

7:00 AM - 8:00 AM	Pecan Tree Galleria	Continental Breakfast	
8:15 AM - 9:45 AM	Masters Hall	<p>General Session- Self-Determination: A Family Affair <i>Michael L. Wehmeyer, Ph.D.</i></p>	<p>Promoting the self-determination of young people with and without disabilities has become best practice in transition and secondary education. The development of self-determination begins, however, well before young people enter secondary school. It begins with the family when the child is young. This presentation will overview what is meant by self-determination, examine ways in which strengths-based understandings of disability are propelling a greater focus on self-determination, and examine the important role of families in promoting self-determination.</p>
9:45 AM - 10:15 AM	Pecan Tree Galleria	BREAK	
10:00 AM- 2:00 PM	Pecan Tree Galleria	Exhibitor Tables	
10:15 AM - 11:15 AM	Masters Hall	<p>Promoting the Self-Determination of Youth and Young Adults with Disabilities <i>Michael Wehmeyer, University of Kansas</i></p>	<p>This session will examine practices that can be implemented both in school and at home that will contribute to the development of self-determination. Attendees will learn about evidence-based assessments and practices that should be a part of all students' educational program and be provided information about resources to support their efforts to enable young people to become more selfdetermined.</p>

10:15 AM - 11:15 AM	Room L	GAA 2.0 Year One <i>Crystal Callaway & Mary Nesbit-McBride, GaDOE</i>	The participants will review the criteria for a student to participate in the GAA 2.0 and review the first year of the administration of the GAA 2.0.
10:15 AM - 11:15 AM	Room K	Georgia Medicaid Home and Community-Based Services - NOW/COMP Waivers <i>Addams, P2P</i>	Learn about Medicaid Home and Community-Based Services and the NOW/Comp waivers including eligibility requirements, the application process, covered services and types of service delivery.
10:15 AM - 11:15 AM	Room R	Preparing for Life After High School <i>Carmen Cates</i>	The Georgia High School High Tech program is an in-school transition program providing information and pre-employment transition services to students with disabilities, with avg to above avg IQ's. We assist students with IEP/504 plans with identifying realistic vocational goals and successfully transitioning to post-secondary education and/or gainful employment. This program enhances the State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP) evidenced by HSHT students graduating at a greater than 90% graduation rate, yearly.
10:15 AM - 11:15 AM	Room Y/Z	Engaging families Using Social media <i>Mandi Griffin, GaDOE</i>	This session will give an overview of various online, social media platforms that can be used to assist in boosting family engagement and family participation. Identify what capacity building strategies are needed from the classroom, school or district level, and how to use digital delivery methods to reach more families.

11:30 AM 12:30 PM	Room L	<p>Supporting positive control and self-direction thru Person-Centered Thinking <i>Stacey Ramirez, The ARC Ga & Chrissy Owensby, Stephens County</i></p>	<p>Teaching and supporting the use of person-centered thinking skills means that it is likelier that students' plans will be used and acted on, that updating these plans will occur "naturally," needing less effort and time, and that the student's ability to lead a fulfilling, independent life is maximized. Skills of Person-Centered Thinking supports students' self-discovery as they create a person-centered description that is summarized into a one-page description.</p>
11:30 AM 12:30 PM	Room K	<p>Communicating Georgia's Tiered System of Supports for Students to Families <i>Carole Carr, GaDOE & Deshonda Stringer, GaDOE</i></p>	<p>Understand the role of parents and families within Georgia's Tiered System of Supports for Students. Participants will engage in a fun activity to help illustrate what's the difference between and interconnection of MTSS, SST and RTI. Participants will also takeaway simple practices parents can reinforce at home to support implementation.</p>
11:30 AM 12:30 PM	Room Y/Z	<p>Envisioning Success for 2020 <i>April</i> <i>Lee, E2P Coach, GaPMP</i></p>	<p>Reaching your family engagement goals is easier with clear vision and effective planning. Review tools and effective practices for making 2020 the most impactful family engagement year for you, your partners, and the GaPMP.</p>
11:30 AM 12:30 PM	Room V/W	<p>Work Incentives Planning and Assistance (WIPA) <i>Ronald</i> <i>Burse, GVRA</i></p>	<p>The primary goal for WIPA is to provide Social Security Disability beneficiaries who want to work with information needed in order for them to make informed career and financial choices.</p>

11:30 AM 12:30 PM	Room R	How to Help Parents Understand Their Role in Transition Planning <i>Jackie McNair & Dawn Albanese, Gwinnett County</i>	Participants will learn how to help parents learn about transition planning; why it is important, when to start taking action and what actions may be need, before the student graduates or ages out of school.
12:30 PM - 1:45 PM	Magnolia Ballroom	LUNCH	
2:00 PM - 3:00 PM	Room L	Scaling Up Self-Determination Efforts <i>Elise James, GaDOE</i>	The purpose of this presentation is to present Georgia's plan for scaling up the use of self-determination initiatives. There will be a focus on the ASPIREPLUS initiative, a collaboration Dr. Michael Wehmeyer (University of Kansas), and how Parent Mentors will be included in the initiative.
2:00 PM - 3:00 PM	Room K	Effective Strategies to Support School Completion <i>Susan Brozovic & Annette Murphy, GaDOE</i>	The purpose of this session is to share the SSIP School Completion Toolkit which provides a roadmap of strategies, interventions and resources to help students with and without disabilities graduate with a high school diploma.

2:00 PM - 3:00 PM	Room Y/Z	Strengthening Family Engagement Through Workforce Development: Utilizing Learning Communities and Quality Improvement Strategies for the Children's Medical Services Program <i>Jasmin Godding, DPH</i>	<p>The Children's Medical Services (CMS) program, at the Georgia Department of Public Health (DPH) is engaging local public health districts on shifting the level's of family engagement from direct consultation to partnership and shared leadership by building local workforce capacity. Using an organized learning community and utilization of quality improvement strategies, the CMS workforce will gain knowledge, skills and resources to effectively educate, empower and instill leadership among families of children with special healthcare needs. Skills attained during the learning community will help the CMS workforce to address programmatic challenges and policy decisions with a family centered lens. Six public health districts participated in the four phases of the learning community (1. Communication, 2. Family Activities, 3. Advocacy/Leadership Training, 4. Advisory Council). This presentation aims to share a model for Family Engagement for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs programs and services. <i>Jasmin Godding, DPH</i></p>
-------------------	----------	---	--

2:00 PM - 3:00 PM	Room V/W	Leveraging Technology to Support OUR Students with High Incidence disabilities <i>Paula Gumpman, GaDOE</i>	Let's leverage technology (that we own) to support students with high incidence disabilities: iPhone Android phone iPad Android tablet PC computer Mac computer
2:00 PM - 3:00 PM	Room R	Sharing the Vision: Using Teamwork to Improve Survey Results <i>Amy McCollum & Suzanne Korngold, Oconee</i>	The annual IDEA Parent Survey for Special Education is a unique tool for school systems, providing family engagement information that's specific to special education. Working together with teachers, parents and the community can improve survey participation and results - and promote positive communication among all participants! We will share strategies we've used in Oconee County Schools to create a vision for family engagement!
3:00 PM - 3:15 PM	Pecan Tree Galleria	BREAK	
3:15 PM - 4:15 PM	Room L	Building Your Self Advocacy Tool Box <i>Charlie Miller, GVRA</i>	Self advocacy is one of the things that we must teach to all our students disabilities. As young folks age out of high school and supports we must instill in them the tools of a self advocate. In this program you will learn how to empower yourself to be a self advocate and how to use your "advocates toolbox" to help your community!

3:15 PM - 4:15 PM	Room K	<p>SLDS: A Key Component in the Relationship between Family Involvement and Student Success <i>Jesse Peavy, GaDOE</i></p>	<p>Do your parents and students use the portal provided for them through your SIS? For those who are using it, do they use the SLDS portal also? SLDS has a wealth of information for your parents and students! Come to this session and learn what is available for parents and students and how the SLDS Training Team is supporting your efforts to build relationships with parents that will impact student success.</p>
3:15 PM - 4:15 PM	Room Y/Z	<p>Dispute Resolution Options in Special Education <i>Jamila Polard & Veronica Crenshaw, GaDOE</i></p>	<p>In this session, participants will learn about the special education dispute prevention and dispute resolution processes available in Georgia. Participants will be able to assist parents in obtaining information regarding the dispute prevention and dispute resolution processes. Participants will also be able to guide parents toward the specific dispute prevention and dispute resolution processes that are most appropriate for their circumstances including IEP Team Meeting Facilitation (FIEP). FIEP is a collaborative dispute prevention and resolution process. This fall FIEPs will be offered statewide and this session will describe the ins and outs of the process for all involved.</p>

3:15 PM - 4:15 PM	Room V/W	Drama Mamas- Strategies to help Parent Mentors Perform Better! <i>Ashley Ware, Barrow</i>	Do you ever wonder how to creatively communicate with a parent or school staff member who just doesn't get it? Ashley Ware, parent mentor and former drama teacher, will show you how. Combining real life situations with improv and other theatre techniques, we will discover how to break through the fog and communicate effectively with our stake holders. And we will have fun doing it!! I hope you'll join me.
3:15 PM - 4:15 PM	Room R	Supporting Families to Develop Effective Communication Strategies <i>Christine Kramlich, PRC</i>	Learn about using low tech and high tech solutions to empower individuals to communicate effectively, supporting families in acquiring different AAC options and engaging them once they have an appropriate solution for their child. An example of a collaborative parent/child/team AAC event will be shared.
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM	Magnolia Ballroom	Phil Pickens Leadership Award Dinner	Join the 2019-2020 Parent Mentor Leadership Council in honoring this year's recipients of the 14th Annual Phi Pickens Leadership Award. This Prestigious award honors a parent mentor and an administrator whose work exemplifies true partnerships in improving results locally, regionally, and state wide.
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2019			
8:00 AM - 9:00 AM	Magnolia Ballroom	Director's Breakfast	GaDOE will discuss ways to utilize parent mentors to improve family engagement and increase positive response on the IDEA Parent Survey.
8:00 AM - 9:00 AM	Magnolia Ballroom	Parent Mentor & Guest Breakfast	The GaPMP 2019-2020 Leadership will share their vision for the coming year.
9:15 AM - 9:45 AM	Pecan Tree Galleria	BREAK & Checkout	

<p>10:00 AM - 11:45 AM</p>	<p>Masters Hall</p>	<p>Closing General Session- Hopes Sky High: Stories to inspire vision, leadership, ability and hope. <i>Laura Whitaker, Executive Director, ESP</i></p>	<p>Laura Whitaker, M. Ed., began her relationship with Extra Special People, Inc. by working as a counselor and on the leadership team as a college student at UGA. Her passion for enhancing the lives of children with developmental disabilities and her specialized education in this field led her to be selected as the director after the founder of ESP suddenly passed in 2004. As Executive Director, Laura uses her leadership and management strengths to manage staff, oversee multiple year-round programs and raise funds to run programs. Her favorite part of the job is getting to hug the many children who walk through the ESP doors.</p>
		<p>Housekeeping & Closing Remarks</p>	<p><i>Safe Travels!</i></p>

