

# Parents Becoming Leaders

Steps

1

2

3

4

	Parenting Education & Support	Parent Involvement	Parent Engagement	Parenting Leadership
<b>Activities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Support for basic needs</li> <li>★ Access to community services</li> <li>★ Parent support groups or traditional parenting education</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Attend community early childhood events</li> <li>★ Attend organized parent group events</li> <li>★ Attend parent conferences or workshops</li> <li>★ Learn about early childhood in your community</li> <li>★ Learn about local collaborative board opportunities</li> <li>★ Learn about local parent groups</li> <li>★ Learn about early learning and care quality choices</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Serve as an active parent member with a local parent group</li> <li>★ Volunteer at an early childhood event</li> <li>★ Serve as a parent representative on a local or statewide workgroup, advisory group or board</li> <li>★ Engage in elected official education</li> <li>★ Attend parent leadership or advocacy training</li> <li>★ Participate in local action project or activity</li> <li>★ Attend statewide advocacy event</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Serve as a local parent organizer</li> <li>★ Educate a state elected candidate or official</li> <li>★ Co-chair a local or statewide workgroup, advisory group or board</li> <li>★ Lead a workshop at a parent meeting, parent conference, or statewide conference</li> <li>★ Organize, plan or host a community conversation</li> <li>★ Recruit and mentor a parent to get engaged with local early childhood initiatives</li> <li>★ Convene a meeting with your network (church, social, etc.) to educate on early childhood issues</li> <li>★ Write an editorial for local newspaper</li> <li>★ Present importance of early childhood investment at civic group</li> <li>★ Inform local businesses about importance of early childhood investment</li> </ul>
<b>Outcomes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Basic needs met</li> <li>★ Parents can voice needs</li> <li>★ Increases parent confidence</li> <li>★ May remove parent isolation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Strengthens family</li> <li>★ Strengthens connection and understanding of community</li> <li>★ Strengthens advocacy efforts for child</li> <li>★ Increases parent knowledge</li> <li>★ Increases parent self-esteem</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Strengthens sustainability of programs and services</li> <li>★ Strengthens community involvement</li> <li>★ Increases parent/professional collaboration</li> <li>★ Increases parent skills</li> <li>★ Increases parent empowerment</li> <li>★ Parents choose quality early learning and care environments or advocate for local improvement</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Creates better outcomes for children</li> <li>★ Strengthens community participation in early childhood efforts (faith, business)</li> <li>★ Strengthens understanding by professionals that parents are knowledgeable consumers and creates an openness to change</li> <li>★ Strengthens decision-making on policy</li> <li>★ Promotes elimination of ineffective practices</li> <li>★ Creates more efficient use of funds</li> <li>★ Creates peer parents and professionals</li> <li>★ Increases parent leadership skills</li> </ul>
<b>Necessary Supports for Success</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Invest in programs and services</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Invest in local parent organizer</li> <li>★ Invest in “barrier busting” parent participation supports (transportation, child care and potentially food)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Provide parent orientation</li> <li>★ Provide parent skill development/training opportunities</li> <li>★ Provide opportunities for ACTION</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>★ Provide coaching/mentoring for specific role</li> <li>★ Provide honorariums for parent expertise</li> <li>★ Provide implementation tools &amp; templates</li> <li>★ Provide access to needed materials/supplies to support work</li> </ul>