

✓ The Alliance National Parent Partnership Council (ANPPC)

wanted to know how organizations partner with parents. With a list of its top 10 questions, the ANPPC surveyed the Alliance membership, grantees and others in its network – and here are the results!

1 How do you invite parents to partner with you?

- Word of mouth
- Referrals from other parents
- Sign-up sheets at conferences
- Local PTA
- Social media
- Through other community efforts that involve parents

2 What keeps parents plugged in?

- Formal parent leader agreement
- Value their contributions in a visible way
- Spend one-on-one time with parents
- Listen to parents
- Implement their ideas
- Be flexible because life happens
- Create opportunities for growth
- Support families' involvement (child care, crafts for kids, meals)
- Relationship building

3 How often do you meet?

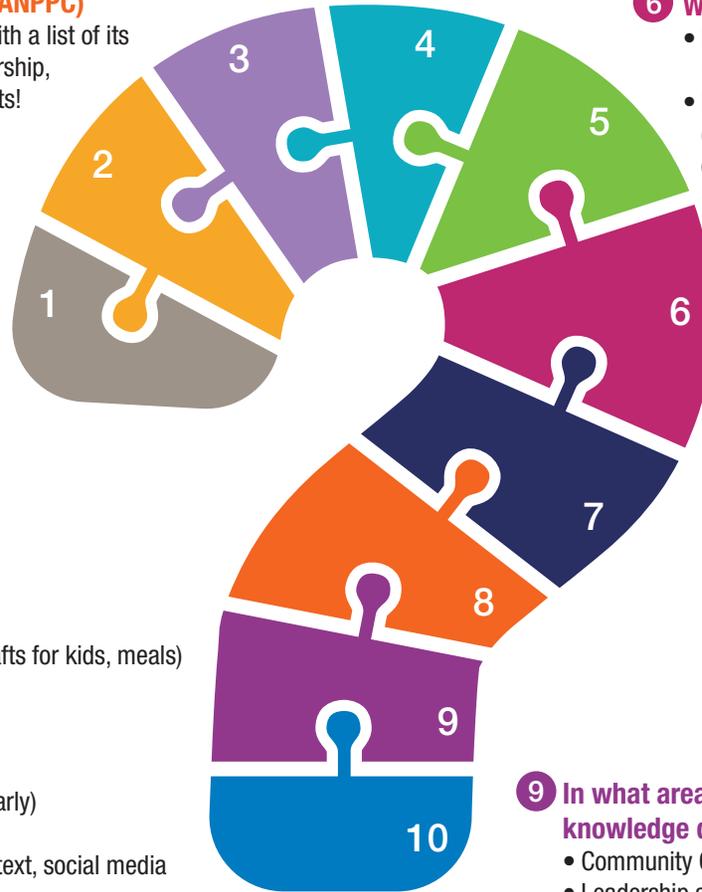
- Meet by phone monthly
- Meet in person periodically (monthly, quarterly, yearly)
- Committees or small groups meet more often
- Support between formal meetings through email, text, social media

4 How are parents compensated for their participation?

- Provide stipend (gift cards for various amounts)
- Reimburse for mileage
- Provide childcare, transportation
- Provide meals, snacks
- Provide training
- When there are no funds for stipends, try to be sensitive to needs

5 What are common motives for parents to volunteer despite busy lives?

- Being part of decision-making that affects their families
- An opportunity to strengthen their family and community
- Being connected to the children's caregivers
- Gain training/information to help professionally or in parenting
- Building self-leadership skills
- Social connections
- Personal passion about their own family and their community



6 What types of activities are parent led?

- In specific parent groups, the goal is for everything to be parent led, but sometimes support is needed for various reasons
- In collaborations, there can be specific grant priorities, expectations or policies that work best when partnering is the optimal goal

7 Who organizes/facilitates meetings?

- Parents and agencies/administration together
- Agency organizes meetings and parents lead
- Parents lead/agencies support as needed

8 What is the purpose of your council/team?

- Develop parent leadership skills
- Develop parent advocacy skills
- Develop and provide parent leadership in local school through the PTA
- Implement cafés – strengthening families and communities
- Provide needed resources and support for children and families
- To advocate for policy changes that will improve the lives of children and families

9 In what areas do you provide training or knowledge development?

- Community Cafés
- Leadership skills
- Protective factors
- Family topics, such as financial matters, parenting skills, family goals, leadership skills and community organizing
- Subjects as requested, viewing each subject through the lens of the protective factors

10 What types of resources do you offer to parents?

- Information on local school district
- Parenting education
- Access to programs
- Linking families to services (baby pantry, food pantry and others specific to community)
- Opportunities to build social connections and network

Top 10
QUESTIONS
We
need to know



National Parent Partnership Council (ANPPC)

✓ Learn more about parent partnerships

ctfalliance.org/partnering-with-parents

PARENT PARTNERS

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2

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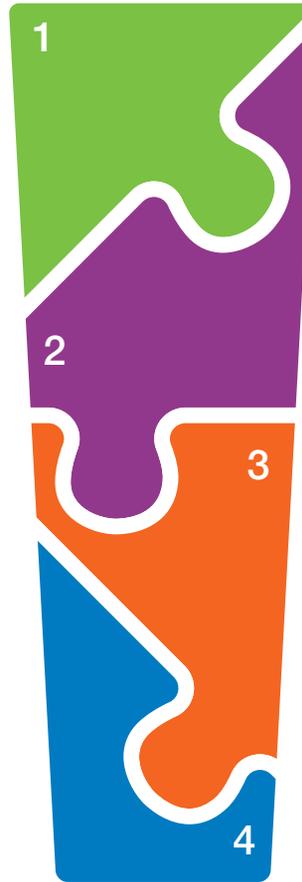
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✓ **Building and Sustaining Effective Parent Partnerships** refers to four elements or “puzzle pieces.” To help parents and organizational partners put these pieces together, the Alliance National Parent Partnership Council (ANPPC) developed the following questions as a conversation tool. Use the work space to record your thoughts.

To learn more, see *Building and Sustaining Effective Parent Partnerships* at:

ctfalliance.org/partnering-with-parents

- 1 Getting to Know You**
 - What do you want to learn or know to feel a part of our team?
 - What new skills or knowledge are you excited to learn about from our group?
 - What is the story that brings you here today?
 - How might you benefit from participating?
- 2 Working Together**
 - What do you value about being together?
 - What strengths and/or gifts do you bring to our team?
 - How can we each individually and together as a group nurture a culture of equity and inclusiveness?



4
Elements of Partnerships We need 2 know

- 3 Building Community**
 - What more can we achieve if we work together?
 - In your wildest dreams, what changes would you notice if we were successful?
 - When looking at our individual dreams, what themes or ideas do we hold in common?
 - What has worked well before and how can we do more of that?
 - What can you contribute as an individual and what must we do together as a group?
- 4 Mentoring Others**
 - Because of what we plan to do, what resources do we already have to do this work?
 - Who else would be interested in learning what we are learning?
 - Who else could you share this experience with and invite to join in the fun?
 - Looking at each bold step we are taking, how can we break it into smaller pieces and ask others to help?

✓ **The Goal We Can Set** after our conversation today is:

ORGANIZATIONAL PARTNERS

1

2

3

4



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