



2021 OSEP  
Leadership and  
Project Directors'  
Conference

July 19-22, 2021



# Elevating Family Voice in Part C and Part B-619 Programs

Presenters: *Mary Lee Porterfield, DaSy Center; Sharon Loza, NC Part C Program; Dawn Meskil, NC 619 Program; Beverly Roberts, NC Exceptional Children's Assistance Center*

## Session Description

This session will explore the many strategies that Part C and Part B 619 program leaders in one state are using to elevate family voice in program improvement planning. Join us to explore successes and lessons learned related to this equity-focused work to support families as advisors and partners.

## Critical Information

North Carolina's Part C and 619 programs have partnered with the state's parent center (the Exceptional Children's Assistance Center or ECAC) to support family participation in numerous program improvement activities. Through focus groups and other outreach to families, the ECAC has elevated family voice in revisions to the Part C Family Outcomes Survey process; Part C to 619 transition planning; and implementation of the Pyramid Model project across both programs. Collaborating across agencies and including families takes time and patience, as well as persistence. Families can be strong partners if they feel seen and heard. Who is missing from your planning meetings? At the state and at the local level, how are you staying in touch with families' experiences and considering how to connect with families in order to inform program improvement?

*The contents of this presentation were developed by the presenters for the 2021 OSEP Conference. However, these contents do not necessarily represent the policy of the Department of Education, and you should not assume endorsement by the Federal Government.  
(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1221e-3 and 3474)*



## Resources

Bryan Stevenson, Equity Justice Initiative

<https://eji.org/bryan-stevenson/>

DaSy Data Culture Toolkit: Teaming for Data Use Resource

<https://dasycenter.org/data-culture-toolkit/teaming-for-data-use/>

DaSy Data Systems Framework: Stakeholder Engagement Resource

<https://dasycenter.org/data-culture-toolkit/teaming-for-data-use/>

ECTA Informing Families About Outcomes Resource:

<https://ectacenter.org/eco/pages/talking.asp#InformingFamiliesaboutOutcomes>

Henderson, A. T., Mapp, K. L., Johnson, V. R., Davies, D. (2007) *Beyond the Bake Sale: The Essential Guide to Family-School Partnerships*. The New Press.

Leading By Convening Resource

<https://osepideasthatwork.org/leading-convening-blueprint-authentic-engagement>

NCPMI Pyramid Model Overview

<https://challengingbehavior.cbcs.usf.edu/Pyramid/overview/index.html>

Presenter Contact Information:

To reach any of the presenters from this session, please email Mary Lee Porterfield at [marylee.porterfield@sri.com](mailto:marylee.porterfield@sri.com). She will pass your comments and questions along to the panelists.