

Mission

The mission of the Parent Advocacy Connection Program is to empower, educate, encourage, and equip families to partner with professionals in promoting access to services that are family-centered, community based, comprehensive, and culturally competent.

REGIONAL COORDINATOR:

CONTACT US

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PAC is a program of NAMI Ohio



PAC

NAMI Ohio
Parent Advocacy Connection

Parent Peer Support for all
caregivers of children.



FAQ'S

How can PAC help my family?

- By attending meetings with families, such as: school, court hearings, case reviews, individual one-on-one meeting with the parent, and all team meetings.
- By helping parents share information, that only parents with lived experiences can provide, with professionals.
- By listening to families talk about what they need and what their concerns are.
- By encouraging parents' natural ability to speak up for their children and families.
- By being there for parents so that they do not feel alone when facing difficult times with their children.

What is a Parent Peer Supporter?

An individual with lived experience as the primary caregiver or parent of a child or children for whom they have navigated multiple child serving systems (mental health, juvenile Justice, child protective services, education, developmental disabilities), on behalf of their child/children with social, emotional, developmental, health and or behavioral health needs.

Who can use this service?

Any family in Ohio who has a child or adolescent who is involved in two or more of the child serving systems (mental health, juvenile Justice, child protective services, education, developmental disabilities).

Who funds the PAC Program?

PAC is administered by NAMI Ohio and is funded through a multi-system grant from various state agencies.

The PAC Program is a 100% free service.

WHO WE ARE

The Parent Advocacy Connection (PAC) program has been helping Ohio families navigate through crisis situations and equipping caregivers to advocate for their children since 2004.

We support families through multiple systems - juvenile justice, social services, education, mental health, and developmental disabilities.

PAC is a 100% free, independent and confidential program that is family driven. All parents involved in the PAC program have the right to refuse services or close their case at anytime with no penalties.

OUR APPROACH

The PAC program pairs families with trained Parent Peer Supporters who have extensive training, supervision and lived experience.

We help parents and caregivers become better advocates for their own children and families.

PAC adheres to strict boundaries and confidentiality agreements to protect the families we serve. A complaint procedure has been established to ensure all Parent Peer Supporters maintain the program's high standards for working with families.

PAC Parent Peer Supporters are volunteers who are parents themselves and who know first hand how it feels to be scared, angry, alone, and lost.

Parent Peer Supporters must pass a background check every 2 years and complete several hours of training on the multiple systems of care.