

Contact Your Parent Advisor

The Role of the Parent Advisor

The primary role of the Parent Advisor is to build a strong network of family peer support programs and to assure that there is family voice in the development of all policies and services.

Parent Advisors coordinate training opportunities for Family Peer Advocates, clinical service providers, schools, community organizations and families. They host forums to exchange best practice ideas, foster cross-systems collaboration and strengthen family-provider partnerships. Parent Advisors share information with parents and providers and create opportunities for these stakeholders to provide input on how services and policies are working for families and youth.

Knowledgeable about local, state and national resources in children's behavioral health and family peer support, Parent Advisors are able to connect people to programs that provide direct assistance. As parents of children with complex behavioral health challenges, the Parents Advisors bring a unique perspective and passion to their work.



New York City Region

Manhattan (New York), Brooklyn (Kings), Staten Island (Richmond), Queens, Bronx

Christina Richburg

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Bernadine Meeks

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Long Island Region

Nassau and Suffolk

Cheryl Williams

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Heather Tafuro

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Western Region

Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Chemung, Erie, Genesee, Livingston, Monroe, Niagara, Ontario, Orleans, Schuyler, Seneca, Steuben, Tioga, Tompkins, Wayne, Wyoming and Yates

Pam Brannan

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Hudson River Region

Albany, Columbia, Dutchess, Greene, Orange, Putnam, Rensselaer, Rockland, Saratoga, Schenectady, Schoharie, Sullivan, Ulster, Warren, Washington and Westchester

Barbara Altadonna

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Central Region

Broome, Cayuga, Chenango, Clinton, Cortland, Delaware, Essex, Fulton, Franklin, Hamilton, Herkimer, Jefferson, Madison, Montgomery, Lewis, Oneida, Onondaga, Oswego, Otsego and St. Lawrence

Kathleen Liedka

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Parent Advisors are employed by Families Together in New York State and work in collaboration with the New York State Office of Mental Health (OMH) to provide technical assistance to all OMH licensed and funded programs.

“The Parent Advisors are so important to the family support movement. They have lived experience and are connected to the families, advocates, community and state leaders in ways that impact change on all levels. They support the families of children with mental health challenges and form a link for families that cannot be broken.”

Paige Pierce
Executive Director
Families Together in New York State



Families Together in New York State

Families Together in New York State is a nonprofit family-run organization that strives to establish a unified voice for families of children and youth with social, emotional and behavioral challenges. Our mission is to ensure that every family has access to needed information, support and services. We work diligently to provide for families, partnering family members, Family Peer Advocates, family peer support service providers, policymakers, state leaders and educators to ensure families receive the services needed for their children.

Our toll-free Information and Referral Line is here to serve you. Call us at 888.326.8644 today!

www.ftnys.org

Phone: 518.432.0333

Information and Referral

1.888.326.8644



I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel.

-Maya Angelou



New York State Regional Parent Advisors

Families Together in New York State in
partnership with the New York State
Office of Mental Health

