



## Living Leadership: Valuing Our Lived Expertise

### Session Resources

1. [Methods and Emerging Strategies to Engage People with Lived Experience](#)

This brief identifies methods and emerging strategies to engage people with lived experience in federal research, programming, and policymaking. It draws on lessons learned from federal initiatives across a range of human services areas to identify ways that federal staff can meaningfully and effectively engage people with lived experience.

2. [Parent Partner Program Navigator](#)

The Parent Partner Program Navigator breaks down information for agencies on how to design, implement, and enhance a parent partner program as a strategy for engaging families through peer mentoring and support.

3. [Tips for Youth Engagement](#)

This article and toolkit offer support for engaging young people in advocacy, policy, and work experience in the child welfare space.

4. [Youth Voice Tip Sheet](#)

The Freechild Institute believes that young people are powerful contributors to social change around the world. But when was the last time you heard their voices? Honestly sat down and listened to youth and heard what a young person had to say? This tip sheet, written by youth and young adults for adults, provides tips about youth voice today.

5. [How Do Parent Partners Instill Hope?](#)

Many child welfare agencies have taken steps to prioritize meaningful engagement with families. In doing so, they have come to recognize the inherent power differential between parents and caseworkers and the importance of connecting families newly involved with the system to parents who have already experienced the child welfare system, who can mentor, encourage, and instill hope for the journey ahead. One innovative approach that has emerged over the past decade is the use of peer mentors, or parent partners, who serve to bridge the gap between birth parents and a complex, often challenging, and overwhelming system. In this resource, agencies can explore the idea of instilling hope through parent partner programs.

6. [Family Empowerment Leadership Academy](#)

The Family Empowerment and Leadership Academy resources can help managers, supervisors, frontline staff, and family leaders build a shared understanding of what empowering families looks like in practice; invest in collaboration, shared leadership, and meaningful partnerships; work with families to create sustainable change; provide peer-to-peer support; collaborate with parent partners and family leaders; and prepare for implementing agency and system change, including sustainability, and using data and evidence-based practice.

7. [From Foster Care to Success](#)

This Chicago Tribune article from 2013 details Antwan Turpeau's story of how he became a professional.

8. [Personal History in Foster Care Helps Social Worker Understand Youths](#)

This article highlights Judy Tudor's lived experience in the foster care system and how that experience impacts her work as a professional in the child welfare field.

9. [Parent Partner Program Navigator Launch Webinar](#)

This webinar introduces child welfare professionals and family leaders to the Parent Partner Program Navigator, a web-based, interactive tool designed to assist child welfare staff and parent partner leaders in designing and implementing parent partner programs. The Navigator walks participants through four learning domains: Assessing Readiness Needs and Capacity, Program Design, Program Management, and Engagement and Partnerships. Presenters for this webinar share work examples and experiences that utilize the four domains as a framework for designing and implementing parent partner programs at the county and State levels. This webinar is available through CapLEARN. Log in at <https://learn.childwelfare.gov/> to view and access related materials.