Nevada PEP Community Resource Specialist Network

Nevada PEP is recruiting parents of children with disabilities to become members of the Nevada PEP Community Resource Specialist Volunteer Network. You have been there, your experiences make you uniquely qualified to provide information and support to other families who have children with disabilities. As a part of the Nevada PEP Volunteer Network you will have access to information on a host of topics. You will be a part of a nationwide network of Parent Training and Information Centers. Join others who are committed to a cause:

- bringing credibility to parent involvement,
- influencing service systems,
- and being a positive role model.

**Community Resource Specialist support families in their own communities through a variety of activities.**

You may be interested in volunteering in one or more of the following:

A. **Individual Assistance:**
   - Contact new parents, offer assistance and understanding
   - Provide emotional support and information, be a nonjudgmental listener
   - Be a resource to other parents and gain knowledge through additional training
   - Build and demonstrate positive parent/professional relationships
   - Provide a role model for parent/professional collaboration
   - Walk new parents through the eligibility and initial IEP process
   - Help parents organize their questions and concerns prior to meetings
   - Match parents with similar concerns, share coping strategies
   - Know when to make appropriate referrals
   - Understand and assist in basic conflict resolution steps.

B. **Resource Link:**
   - Assist professionals in developing Family Friendly materials
   - Maintain a list of community service providers and resources
   - Recommend, develop, and maintain a resource library at service locations

C. **Public Awareness:**
   - Encourage positive volunteer roles, recruit volunteers
   - Contact schools and community service providers and receive referrals.
   - Provide parent perspective on committees and taskforces
   - Be involved with school meetings and advisory groups, provide special needs view
   - Plan opportunities for children and their families to socialize
   - Locate funds for special events and materials
   - Increase public awareness of disabilities, publicize upcoming activities
   - Assist schools with screening, classroom and/or special activities

Please call for training information or questions if you are interested in becoming a Community Resource Specialist.

www.nvpep.org toll free 1-800-216-5188