

TASP Organizational Self-Assessment on Supporting/Advocating for Parents with I/DD

Purpose and Target Population

Parents with I/DD are often an underserved population in many countries, including the US and Canada. The TASP-OSA is a self-assessment tool that an agency, program or state department can use to examine support for parents with I/DD at the local, regional or state level. The TASP-OSA is intended to help you gather information useful in long term planning (e.g. 5-year plans). The TASP-OSA provides you with guiding questions in the following nine service areas.

- | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Outreach | 4. Environment | 7. Leadership |
| 2. Program Evaluation | 5. Staff Training | 8. Human and Legal Rights |
| 3. Policy | 6. Service Models | 9. Quality |

The TASP-OSA is intended for UCEDDs, P & A Projects, DD Councils, Child Welfare Agencies, Developmental Disability Program or Service Agencies, Centers for Independent Living, Self-Advocacy Organizations, Health Care Agencies and Early Intervention Programs. The TASP-OSA was developed by self-advocates and board members serving on the TASP Advocacy Committee.

Directions

Identify one or more staff persons with in-depth knowledge of your organizational policies and practices to complete the self-assessment and share the results with a planning group. Each question may be scored as follows.

- | | |
|---------------|------------------------|
| N = No | NA = Not applicable |
| Y = Yes | D = Under discussion |
| NS = Not Sure | DV = Under development |

We hope you will use this tool to decide what steps, (if any) your organization can plan to take to strengthen services for this underserved population.

TASP is available to answer questions if you are not sure of what a specific item means or how it might apply to the agency where you work. A more extensive set of questions is available if you want to look at this in more depth. Direct any questions to info@achancetoparent.net and we will ask a member of our staff or board to contact you. Also, we encourage you to access the TASP website at <https://www.achancetoparent.net>.

Planning Priorities: We hope the TASP-OSA helps you to identify new steps in strengthening your outreach, collaboration with and services for parents with I/DD. (Update at least every five years.)

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.



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TASP-OSA – BRIEF

Longer version available upon request

Name (s) of Person Completing this Self: Assessment _____

Date: _____ Program/Agency: _____

Agency Role/Position: _____

1. Outreach to Parents with I/DD – Parent voices are identified and heard.

- Does your state/agency have a process to find and/or identify parents with a I/DD?
- Have you surveyed parents with I/DD to find out what support services they need?

2. Program Evaluation –We act to improve support and services for parents with I/DD.

- Has your state/agency identified specific criteria for adequate service to parents with I/DD?
- Has your state/agency reviewed evidence-based criteria for supporting parents with I/DD?

3. Policy – We have meaningful policies and procedures to support parents with I/DD.

- Does your state obtain and report data on the number of parents with I/DD?
- Does your state track parenting outcomes for parents with I/DD (at any age level)?

4. Environment and Materials – We have the resources to benefit parents with I/DD.

- Does your agency access resources through TASP or the National Research Center for Parents with Disabilities (NRCPD) for parents with I/DD?
- Does your agency use training materials developed for or adapted to benefit parents with I/DD?

5. Staff Training – Professionals are prepared to meet parent needs.

- Do employees at your agency receive training specifically around working with and supporting parents with I/DD?
- Do you offer, or do you know of local or state-wide organizations that offer training around supporting parents with I/DD?

6. Leadership - We are active in advocacy and service development for parents with I/DD.

- Do parents with I/DD participate in leadership opportunities in your state/agency?
- Do self-advocacy organizations in your state advocate for the rights/needs of parents with I/DD?

7. Services – We have adequate funding/infrastructure to support parents with I/DD.

- Does your state have a Medicaid Waiver that outlines specific services for parents with I/DD?
- Do generic parent training programs in your state provide accommodations for parents with I/DD?



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8. Human and Legal Rights – Our agency staff have an adequate knowledge of the rights of parents with I/DD?

- Staff at your agency are aware of the ADA laws regarding the rights of parents with IDD.
- Does your state have a law or pending legislation regarding the rights of parents with I/DD?
- Has your state had any Office of Civil Rights/DOJ/HHS findings related to the rights of parents with I/DD?

9. Quality – Our agency implements evidence-based practice related to parents with I/DD.

- Does your agency/state recruit and train peer navigators/mentors to assist parents with I/DD?
- Does your agency/state offer competency-based parenting skills assessments?



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Suggested and Possible Activities for a Priority for Serving Parents with Developmental Disabilities

Education & Training

- Preservice training
 - Educators
 - Social workers (including graduate training)
 - Psychologists (assessments)
- Inservice training
 - Child Protection workers (can be funded by Title IVe funds if state chooses)
 - Developmental Service workers and system
 - Lawyers (ADA, etc.)
 - Guardians ad litem (CASAs)
 - Public guardians
 - Parenting coaches
 - Psychologists (assessors)
 - Home visitors
 - Peer Navigators, Peer Mentors, Parent Support workers
- Parent training
 - Behaviorally based training (Feldman & Case)
 - Parent coaching (Easter Seals)
 - Prevent Child Abuse training
 - Health & Wellness (Tymchuk)

Research

- Attitude change from training
- Numbers of parents w/dd
- Numbers of parents w/dd involved with child welfare
- Numbers of parents served by DD
 - #s on Medicaid Waivers
 - #s in Shared Living (with both child & parent in home)
 - #s or percentages of Termination of Parental Rights
- Outcomes of interventions with parents
 - Parent training & coaching
 - Peer Navigation
 - Competence-based Parenting Skills Assessments
- Outcomes for Children



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Service

- Peer Navigation, Peer Mentoring, including assistance w/accessing system supports
- Assessments
- Connection to LEND program for Parent Mentoring

Technical Assistance

- Identification of parents with dd (esp. for social workers)
- Appropriateness of assessments
- Effective ways to support parents w/dd, esp. building parent efficacy perception
- Information about available programs providing support for parents w/dd

Dissemination

- Presentations at conferences
- Publications
- Newsletters
- Information about organizations w/resources
- Website
- Information for parents about accessible materials, such as You-Tube videos, SARTAC information
- Information about regional resources useful for parents w/ IDD and those serving them.



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