FY 2017 PROGRAM WORK TEAM ANNUAL REPORT
Parenting Education Program Work Team (PWT)

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List of Active PWT Members (entered online)

Activities and Accomplishments:

Activities
Program Work Team Annual Meeting

The Parenting Education Program Work Team (PWT) was initiated in March 2004 with the primary goal of fostering communication among parenting educators, as well as providing support and resources to educators throughout New York State. In 2017, the PWT held their annual meeting in Ithaca, NY on October 23rd.

The 2017 PWT event took place as part of Day 1 of the Parent Education In-Service Training. The Meeting focused on how to improve existing parent education programs. Specifically, the Team discussed interest in updating curricula for a number of current parent education programs to be more inclusive of parents of children with special needs and addressing adverse childhood experiences (ACEs). A PWT subcommittee was formed to address this request and has been meeting monthly since December 2017. The Team also discussed strategies for ways to engage parents with children of different ages and different developmental stages in parent education programs.

Utilizing PWT Members to Further Grant Work

As part of the Parenting in Context: Expanding Community Evaluation Efforts and Evidence-Based Programming Statewide project, we developed a CCE Parent Education Community Assessment tool and complimentary resources. At the PWT Meeting we discussed the value of this tool, and our plans to pilot it in several counties. We asked for PWT members to volunteer for this pilot project, with enthusiastic results. Following the pilot phase, we will incorporate feedback from the pilot counties to further refine the assessment tool. PWT members will be critical to this effort in making adjustments prior to a statewide rollout.

We also introduced the newly-funded Parenting and Child Learning: The Role of Parental Beliefs about Child Learning and Language Development project and asked for volunteers to assist in recruiting parents for a discussion group to talk about their child’s
play, toy preferences, and thoughts on how children learn through play. We have set up two parent groups as a result of assistance from PWT members.

**Accomplishments**

- Received PWT Special Needs Funding (2016)

- Continuing to work on the Community Assessment Tool with help and feedback from PWT members.

- Continuing to produce Statewide, County and individual Program Reports for participants in CCE parent education programs across NY State using data collected via *The Cornell Cooperative Extension Parent Education Data Collection System*.

- Continuing to develop new campus-county connections with faculty and via on-line and campus-based learning opportunities.

- Continued expansion and integration of the work of the Parent Education PWT with the Bronfenbrenner Center for Translational Research (BCTR).

The Parenting Education PWT continues its commitment to annual meetings to discuss specific needs and to share tools for addressing current and emerging issues in the area of parenting education in New York State. Annual meetings include: updates on research and practice, professional development opportunities, peer networking, exploring potential for collaboration, engaging participation in pilot projects to benefit families and youth in New York State, and actively engaging in expansion and integration efforts between county associations, faculty and colleagues on campus.