



## LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT:

### Southern Maryland LEADers

**LOCATION:** Charles, St. Mary's, Calvert

**FUNDING:** \$36,697

#### GOAL

**Council Goal:** People with developmental disabilities and their families are empowered to lead the lives they want and transform communities.

**Council Objective:** Increase knowledge and skills of people with developmental disabilities and families through education and training.

**Goals of Initiative:** Through expansion and enhancement of the Parents' Place of Maryland's (PPMD) existing leadership development program, provide leadership training in Southern Maryland for 25 parents of children with developmental disabilities and ensure ongoing engagement by participants in advocacy and leadership.

#### STRATEGIES & ACTIVITIES

- Develop an advisory team of LEADers graduates who live in Southern MD counties who will assist with recruiting applicants, reviewing applications, and choosing a class consisting of diverse participants who are likely to remain engaged in ongoing leadership activities.
- Develop a training team that includes people with developmental disabilities as presenters, PPMD staff, and LEADers graduates, and provide a training program including six full-day sessions over five months.
- Enhance LEADers program by developing a mentoring component and a localized focus on a new region, conduct quarterly follow-up activities for new leaders, and support participants to develop SMART leadership goals for themselves.
- Provide ongoing leadership opportunities through partnerships, including with the Charles County Special Education Citizens Advisory Committee and The Parents Center.

#### OUTCOMES

- Expanded and enhanced LEADers training program that includes components that support engagement in leadership roles after training is complete; increased understanding of specific topical areas, including but not limited to special education and increased development of leadership skills.
- By 9/30/18, 75% of participants in the Southern Maryland LEADers program will have participated in at least five events or activities that demonstrate leadership in improving systems of care for children and youth with developmental disabilities and their families.