HO-3

MAPS Activity

You’re going to do a MAP! This is a planning activity designed to help you reflect on the future, guide you in the development your Internship Action Plan, and assist you in getting the most benefit from your project participation.

- MAPS stands for Making Action Plans System.
- This is activity is for your use. There will be opportunities to share, draw upon and use the MAPS results, but you can decide what information you want to share.
- Try to be free flowing with your responses; no one else will be judging them.
- As you work through each step, just concentrate on capturing your ideas. Your responses don’t need to be confined to a neat, organized list. There will be an opportunity to summarize and highlight your responses at the end of the activity.

The 5 STEPS to a MAP are:

1. HISTORY: a short description of the background and individual circumstances that led to your participation with the Parents as Collaborative Leaders Project.

2. DREAMS: a vision of things you would like to see happening as a result of your future participation with the Parent as Collaborative Leaders Project.

3. FEARS: a description of your worries or concerns about becoming a Parent Leader.

4. WHO AM I: a description of yourself, including the strengths, skills, likes, and values you bring to the leadership role.

5. NEEDS: a description of the things that need to happen to help make your vision for the future as a Parent Leader come true.
HISTORY: Briefly describe the background and circumstances that led to your participation with the Parents as Collaborative Leaders Project (not meant to be a detailed chronological account, more like highlights).

- What brought you to this project?
- What is significant about your personal history?
- What is significant about your family or child(ren)’s history?
- What were your first experiences in which you saw yourself as a leader?
- What adult experiences and/or formal/informal training has helped you see yourself as a potential leader?
**DREAMS:** What dreams do you have in relation to your personal and professional development as a Parent Leader?

- What contributions and/or changes do you dream about that will involve your leadership or advocacy?
- What one thing do you most want to see happen?
- What do you hope to accomplish in the internship year? 5 years? 10 years?
- What other dreams are important to you as you begin this journey?
FEARS: Identify your worries or concerns about becoming a Parent Leader.

- What concerns arise when you envision yourself as a leader and/or about the leadership role?
- What concerns do you have regarding your involvement with the Parents as Collaborative Leaders Project?
- What barriers might stand in the way of your realizing your leadership dreams?
WHO AM I: A description of yourself, including strengths, skills, likes, that you will draw on to support your role as a Parent Leader

- What words best describe you?
- What skills, gifts, and talents will you bring with you to the Parent Leader role?
- What areas related to leadership do you want to develop further?
- What do you like/dislike about your current role(s) involving leadership or advocacy?
- What values and beliefs guide your life and work as a person and leader?
NOTE: In preparation for this next step, please first take a few moments to go back over the previous four steps to review your responses. Highlight or make a mental note of key ideas that emerged in each section. Keeping them in mind, you will be ready to complete this step.

NEEDS: You’re encouraged to use a brainstorming style approach to identify the things that need to happen to help make your dreams for the future come true.

- What needs to happen to support you in reaching your dreams?
- What will you do to make the most of your participation in this project?
- What skills do you want to develop during your internship experience?
- What else will you need to make your plan work?
- What supports do you need from others?
NEXT STEPS:

1. Look at the AREAS of a MAP.
   - KNOWLEDGE AND INFORMATION (special education laws & regulations, board/committee operations, strategic planning, policy development, evaluation, etc.)
   - SKILL DEVELOPMENT (organizational, communications, collaborative team leadership, consensus building, advocacy, etc.)
   - INTERNSHIP DEVELOPMENT (area-s of focus, site possibilities, collaborative/other supports)

2. REVIEW the work you’ve done so far and IDENTIFY your PRIMARY DREAM or VISION for your project participation and internship experience. Write it down on the top of the MAPS form.

3. Holding realization of your VISION in mind, create one or two major GOALS for each AREA of the MAP. Transfer the GOALS to your MAP, filling in at least one GOAL for each AREA.
My MAP

Name:

My Vision:

My Goals:

KNOWLEDGE AND INFORMATION:
1.

2.

SKILL DEVELOPMENT:
1.

2.

INTERNSHIP DEVELOPMENT:
1.

2.