

# What is a Parent Support Partner?

A Parent Support Partner is the parent of a child with emotional, behavioral, or other behavioral health challenges. The Parent Support Partner has overcome challenges and obstacles to provide his/her own child with a positive, supportive environment and is therefore uniquely equipped to help other parents in similar situations.



*"My Parent Support Partner was very helpful with parenting ideas and connecting us with other community resources."*

## Common reasons families choose the Parent Support Partner Program:

- More—and more serious—tantrums than typical kids their age.
- Parents are exhausted, frustrated, and unsure how to respond to behaviors.
- Their child has been kicked out of preschool or excluded from play dates.
- Behaviors may be disrupting family life and putting serious strain on other family members
- Conflict over behavior may be creating negative relationships with parents



*"It was really helpful to have someone to talk to about what is normal for a kid to be doing at his age."*

## Your Parent Support Partner may:

- Listen to your story.
- Help you identify and access services for your family.
- Accompany you to meetings at school, with doctors, or other meetings you're concerned about.
- Help you to effectively communicate with the agencies in your life to help obtain the services you need for you and your family.





*"My Parent Support Partner gave me great information and activities to try to help with his behaviors."*

When parents support other parents, families...

- feel less isolated
- feel more confident in their ability to care for themselves and their families
- feel less self-doubt
- find that coping skills grow, increasing their ability to adapt and manage their day
- can find answers to their own questions



FREE Parent Support is available to parents of children birth through kindergarten in Charlevoix, Emmet and northern Antrim counties

1-800-432-4121  
(toll free)

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Parent Support  
Partner Program



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**Early Childhood  
Behavioral Health  
Initiative**