

Statewide Parent Advocacy Network (NJ) \$999,389 proposes to establish the NJ Family Engagement (FE) Hub to strengthen NJ's family engagement infra-structure and enhance the capacity and effectiveness of the SEA, LEAs and schools, community-based organizations (CBOs), and families to reach and support strong family engagement partnerships at all levels and within all education environments. The NJ FE Hub will work with the state to shift from "random acts" of involvement to engagement within a systemic approach to support school improvement and student learning, using the DualCapacity-Building Framework for Family School Partnerships, with the overarching goal of increasing informed and effective family engagement in improving student learning and development outcomes. The NJ FE Hub will (1) establish a majority-parent Advisory Committee of 30 members representing NJ's diversity, including education professionals, students, and representatives of early childhood, elementary, and secondary schools, the business community, the SEA and LEAs, and CBOs, to guide our work; (2) develop a NJ FE system framework for high quality and effective state and local FE that includes needs assessment and development and implementation of state and local improvement plans, including use of active implementation, improvement science, and sustainability strategies; (3) develop and disseminate universal resources in multiple languages based on an evidence-based dissemination plan including an easy-to-use website; (4) provide intensive and targeted TA to 75 high-needs LEAs representing more than 35 percent of New Jersey's students to develop systemic services for family engagement in education focused on helping their children meet challenging state standards via BookSmart Reading, Parents As Champions for Literacy and Social-Emotional Learning, and Social Emotional Learning (SEL) and Literacy Strategies for Families, the Whole Child/Whole School/Whole Community model of school improvement, and Parents, Inc. evidence-based parent support groups for the most underserved families; and (5) facilitate parent/professional development via statewide conferences, workshops, and webinars. Proposed outcomes include: Families and professionals will have enhanced family engagement capabilities, connections, confidence, and cognition; families will more effectively support their children's learning and development and school improvement; LEAs and schools will cultivate and sustain active, respectful, and effective partnerships with families that meet family well-being needs, foster school improvement, and link to educational objectives; and the SEA will sustain an integrated state infrastructure for FE focused on student achievement.