



Georgia PAT Network

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The Georgia Parents as Teachers Network is the statewide voice for the national Parents as Teachers program.

The Georgia Parents as Teachers State Office provides technical assistance to existing PAT programs and assists communities start up new programs.

The mission of Parents as Teachers is to provide the information, support, and encouragement parents need to help their children develop optimally during the crucial early years of life. Parents as Teachers is an international ***voluntary*** parent education and family support program serving families throughout pregnancy until their child enters kindergarten. The program is designed to enhance child development and school achievement through parent education accessible to all families. It is a universal access model.

Technical assistance is available for those interested in starting a Parents as Teachers program in Georgia. For more information, please contact Georgia PAT State Leader Roberta Malavenda at 404-317-2734 or rmalaven@bellsouth.net.

Parents as Teachers Service Components:

Personal Visits - Parent Educators share age-appropriate child development information with parents, help parents learn to observe their child's development, address parenting concerns, and engage the family in activities that provide meaningful parent/child interaction and support the child's development.

Group Meetings - Parent group meetings provide opportunities to discuss information about parenting issues and child development.



The Georgia PAT Network is funded through The Communities in Schools Parental Information and Resource Centers (PIRC) Grant and the Georgia Children's Trust Fund. The Communities In Schools PIRC is funded in part by a grant from the US Department of Education Office of Innovation and Improvement.

Screenings - Parent educators are required to conduct annual developmental, health, vision and hearing screening for early identification of potential developmental delays and/or health, vision and hearing problems.

Resource Network - Parent educators help families identify and connect with needed resources and overcome barriers to accessing services.

The Georgia Parents as Teachers Network consists of seven volunteer officers and three state office consultants.

Officers:

- Northern Co-Chair – Clara Herrera
- Southern Co-Chair – Corrie Schuette
- NW Regional Representative – Bernita Love
- NW Jr Regional Representative – Afi Buffard
- NE Regional Representative – Asma Mohamud
- NE Jr. Regional Representative - Patricia Werner
- SW Regional Representative – Kathy Garwood
- SW Jr. Regional Representative – Willie Allen
- SE Regional Representative – Dianne Fuller
- Secretary – Deborah Strahorn

Office Staff:

- State Leader – Roberta Malavenda
- Project Coordinator – Sara Jane Blackman

The Georgia PAT Network provides Georgia Parent Educators with:

- **Advocacy**
- **Collaboration and Networking**
- **Communications**
- **Planning, Data Collection, and Dissemination**
- **Training and Technical Assistance**
- **PAT Development and Quality Assurance**
- **Professional Development**

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