



Meet Rose Calloway Navigator Team Leader

The relationship between Parent to Parent of Georgia and the volunteers is a symbiotic relationship, where you give as much as you get. As a parent of children with disabilities, the information I receive from P2PGA is crucial in the personal advocacy and support for my children. When you are in the middle of a crisis and you feel all alone you long for the understanding and support of someone who has “been through it”. It is not until you are introduced to a group of liked-minded people like those who work for P2P that you feel encouraged, empowered, and educated. Once you have made it through the crisis and arrived on the other side you have a deep desire to give others what you have received during your time of need. Your experience has forced you into a role of leadership. You seek opportunities to share authority, responsibility and resources within organization(s) where there is a common agenda. If it is Atlanta Public School’s specific concern and related to special education then it would fall under my role as Parent Mentor. We invite P2P into our schools as the Parent Training and Information Center to address topics of interest. As a Supporting Parent, I share through my personal experience and research based on my family’s journey. Navigator Teams bring projects and resources to the community at large. Because City of Atlanta has such a large jurisdiction we use the PTA Special Needs Committees infrastructure and Navigator Team resources to support community engagement. Sometimes I would be wearing two or more hats, one hat, or no hat at all. It is when someone else can benefit from something experienced personally, that I feel that my pain now has purpose.

I encourage parent mentors to not only go through the valuable Supporting Parent training, which helps in the job of Parent Mentor, but to also, consider doing the easy Local Guide training, as we are all doing this work already - sharing resources with families and referring them to P2PGA. Then it is an easy process to become a Broker, and then a Navigator Team leader in your community.

Rose Calloway, Fulton County Navigator Team Leader

