



In her words, Joanna Jackson-Turner writes... "Becoming a Supporting Parent and then a Local Guide and now Broker for P2P has been perfect for me. Having a special needs family, I have already built relationships with professionals and have knowledge of my community resources in Dougherty County. I advise parents to network, meet new people, get out in the community and attend outreach events.

A Supporting Parent needs to have the passion that keeps you going. Every phone call is different. The parents' concerns and needs come from all walks of life and situations. I love to listen and support them as a Supporting Parent.

As a Local Guide, my activities are to help families learn about community resources and provide P2P outreach materials to area agencies. I distribute P2P materials to area agencies such as ARC, Easter Seals, Aspire, Babies Can't Wait, Oaktree Program, Marine Base Exceptional family Program, DCSS Exceptional Students Program and New Beginnings of Albany. Volunteer if you can. You never know who you might meet and who knows who. I also look up to people/mentors that have paved the way for myself, (past, present, and future volunteers of P2P) in my community.

As a Navigator Team Broker, I sit at local resource fairs and represent P2P. I'm currently working to become a Navigator Team leader and have many projects that I'm involved with including a Disability Career and Job Fair with community partners as well as a Disability Resource Fair with an emphasis on inclusion and activities for individuals with disabilities in the community.

P2P is a big family! We're all parents, relatives, and professionals of individuals with disabilities. Passion is behind everything we do and the labor of love keeps us all going! The P2P staff are very encouraging, motivational and supportive and I have learned a lot from them all. Staff have complimented me on my work ethics and knowledge of the community I live in and that brightens my day.

I would like to say thank you Parent to Parent of Georgia for The Navigator Project Volunteer Leadership Opportunity.