

## PARTNERS FOR SUCCESS

Partners for Success program serves parents and educational professionals of all Frederick County children and youth with disabilities from ages 3 through 21.

[www.fcps.org/special-education/partners-for-success](http://www.fcps.org/special-education/partners-for-success)



### Purpose of Partners For Success

To educate and connect families of children and youth with disabilities, ages 3-21, to vital knowledge and resources. To support families to be equal partners in the educational decision making process and to assist families in accessing services for their children.

### Parents and Caregivers

The Partners for Success family support coordinators offer parents and caregivers support, information, and connection to community resources to aid in the success of their student and family unit.

### Educators

The Partners for Success family support coordinators provide information about disabilities and support for making accommodations for students with disabilities to assist educators.

### The Community

Partners for Success participates in many community based engagements in addition to hosting trainings, workshops and fun family events that includes various community partners.

### SERVICES INCLUDE:

- Providing Special Education resources
- Sharing information and referrals
- Assisting with IEP understanding
- Participating in IEP meetings
- Organizing trainings and workshops
- Consulting services
- Developing monthly newsletters
- Sharing information about local and state organizations

### CONTACT

Special Education Family and  
Community Involvement Liaisons  
Partners for Success  
Family Support Coordinators

Rachel Spicer  
Email: [rachel.spicer@fcps.org](mailto:rachel.spicer@fcps.org)  
Phone: 240-236-8744

Isamar Grenier  
Email: [isamar.grenier@fcps.org](mailto:isamar.grenier@fcps.org)  
Phone: 240-236-3283



## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### **Q: How do staff or community members refer a parent to Partners for Success?**

A: There is no official referral process. Staff or community members may provide the parent with the contact information or share the parents' contact information with the Partners for Success Coordinators at the parent's request.

### **Q: Are Partners for Success Coordinators the same as Educational Advocates?**

A: No. The role of Partners for Success Coordinators within FCPS is to support, educate, and connect families to vital knowledge and resources so that the family can be an equal partner in the decision making processes within special education. An Educational Advocate is a sometimes paid partnership between family and advocate who will represent the student and family's needs in the school system.

### **Q: What is the difference between Partners for Success and The Office of the Ombuds?**

A: Partners for Success Coordinators work with FCPS families with children ages 3-21, with a disability. The Office of the Ombuds, a person designated by the Board of Education to provide options for resolution of an FCPS concern or issue. Partners for Success and Ombuds frequently work together to support families. For more information about the Office of the Ombuds, [Click here.](#)

### **Q: What is the best way to receive upcoming events and workshops hosted by Partners for Success?**

A: There are several ways to receive upcoming events and workshops. Make sure to update your [Find Out First](#) account to include Special Education, follow the [FCPS Family Support-Partners for Success Facebook page](#), visit the [website](#), or ask to be included in the group e-mails by contacting a Partner for Success Coordinator.

### **Q: What is the role of Partners for Success Coordinators during an IEP meeting?**

A: When a Partners for Success Coordinator is invited to an IEP meeting, their role is to be an added support to all team members. Partners for Success Coordinators can assist the IEP team in brainstorming new ideas, providing resources, and much more. Partners for Success Coordinators assist families in fostering their skills and educational knowledge to be an equal partner in the decision making process during the IEP meeting.

### **Q: Can Partners for Success assist a family even if their student is not enrolled at FCPS, has exited FCPS or aged out?**

A: Partners for Success Coordinators will provide assistance to any family in need to the best of their ability. Partners for Success Coordinators' main focus is FCPS families with children with disabilities ages 3-21; however, Partners for Success Coordinators will provide resources for those needing assistance no matter the age or location.