

Parent Mentor History

In regional meetings, parents of children with disabilities in Ohio voiced the need for a person at the school district level who could best relate to their families' experiences.

In response to this need, the Parent Mentor Program was created through the combined efforts of ODE and the Ohio Coalition for the Education of Children with Disabilities.

In 1990, 10 pilot sites were selected representing school districts in urban, suburban, and rural areas. The overwhelming success of these sites prompted a request to the Ohio General Assembly for additional Funds. Parent mentors now serve families of children in disabilities in approximately one-third of Ohio's school districts.