PRESENTATION GOALS
This presentation will help you —
1. Get to know Kristen and each other;
2. Review grant management concepts to build your knowledge and capacity for directing your projects;
3. Identify strategies to help your projects focus on continuous improvement;
4. Meet expectations for communication with your OSEP project officer; and
5. Look toward the future

MORE ABOUT KRISTEN
## REGION B PROJECTS

### Alabama
- PTI – AL Parent Education Center

### Arkansas
- PTI – Center for Exceptional Families
- AR Support Network

### Florida
- PTI – Family Network on Disabilities of FL (PEN, PSN, POPIN)
- Parent to Parent of Miami
- Project Empower of NW FL

### Georgia
- PTI – Parent to Parent of GA
- PTAC – Parent to Parent of GA

### Louisiana
- PTI – Families helping Families of Greater New Orleans
- Pyramid CPRC

### Mississippi
- PTI – Coalition for Citizens with Disabilities

### North Carolina
- PTI & co-PTAC – Exceptional Children’s Assistance Center
- Family Support Network/HOPE
- F.I.R.S.T.

### Oklahoma
- PTI – Oklahoma Parent Center
- Pervasive Parenting Center

### South Carolina
- PTI – Family Connection of South Carolina
- Family Resource Center for Disabilities and Special Needs

### Tennessee
- PTI – Support & Training for Exceptional Parents

### Texas
- Children’s Disability Information Coalition
- PTI – Partners Resource Network (PATH, PEN, TEAM)

### Virginia
- PTI – Parent Educational Advocacy Training Center
- Formed Families Forward

---

## MAINTAINING A HEALTHY ORGANIZATION & STRONG GRANTS MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

---

**A REVIEW OF THE NUTS & BOLTS**
GRANT MANAGEMENT CONCEPTS

**ESTABLISH STRONG PARTNERSHIPS**

- Clarify roles and responsibilities
- Support a results-oriented approach
- Demonstrate excellence, accountability, and success on performance outcomes

---

**MONITOR BOTH PERFORMANCE AND FISCAL COMPLIANCE**

**PERFORMANCE**

- Implement project as approved
- Clarify goals, objectives and activities
- Demonstrate substantial progress annually
- Keep records

**FISCAL**

- Demonstrate accountability and financial stewardship
- Ensure costs are allowable, reasonable and allocable
- Access funds on reimbursement basis
- Adhere to federal regulations

---

**UNIFORM GUIDANCE**

Streamlines and consolidates government requirements for receiving and using federal awards so as to reduce administrative burden and improve outcomes

Uniform Guidance Technical Assistance for Grantees
EDGAR

Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) and Other Applicable Grant Regulations

Title 34, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Parts 75-79, 81 to 86 and 97-99

EDGAR is currently in transition.

Risk Management

- **Excessive Drawdown**: The Department has established expected rates for quarterly use of federal funds and monitors drawdowns monthly. Excessive drawdowns occur when grantee exceeds those expected rates.

- **Large Available Balance**: Continuation awards can be impacted by having a large available balance (LAB). 70% of project budget is available 90 days or fewer before the budget period ends; especially in Years 3+

- **Annual Audit**: Institutions receiving $750,000 or more in federal funding annually must include those funds in an annual audit and report the results. All Parent Centers should do a single audit or project specific is fine.

LARGE AVAILABLE BALANCES

- Project Officer reviews expenditures in GS monthly.
- OSEP RTP Front Office reviews expenditures in GS in February and May.
- If you have a LAB, you will be asked to:
  - Provide a brief explanation of the factors that lead to a LAB
  - Provide a plan for resolving the LAB over the remaining budget period for the grant
- Project Officers work with OSEP leadership to:
  - Make sure that the proposed plan is consistent with the approved grant project
  - Determine if funding should be continued as planned or reduced
PARENT ORGANIZATION

- Has a board of directors the majority of whom are parents of children with disabilities ages birth through 26 from the community to be served, and
- Has as its mission serving families of children with disabilities who—
  (i) Are ages birth through 26, and (ii) Have the full range of disabilities described in section 602(3) of IDEA.

PARENTS

- A natural, adoptive, or foster parent of a child (unless a foster parent is prohibited by State law from serving as a parent)
- A guardian (but not the State if the child is a ward of the State)
- An individual acting in the place of a natural or adoptive parent (including a grandparent, stepparent, or other relative) with whom the child lives, or an individual who is legally responsible for the child’s welfare; or
- Except as used in sections 1415(b)(2) and 1439(a)(5) of this title, an individual assigned under either of those sections to be a surrogate parent.
GRANT MANAGEMENT CONCEPTS

COMMUNICATE OFTEN WITH YOUR PROJECT OFFICER

- Monthly Communication based on
  - Newsletters
  - Emails
  - Telephone
- Annual Performance Reports / Final Performance Reports
- Requests for changes to
  - Key personnel or level of effort (Project Director, Project staff, Board Chair)
  - Budget (Prior approval required if more than 10% of total budget)
  - Project scope, activities or timeline

GRANT MANAGEMENT CONCEPTS

PROVIDE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND FEEDBACK

- OSEP Key Resources document
- Grant Performance Tips
- Websites, such as
  - sites.ed.gov/IDEA
  - www.ed.gov
  - OSEPIDEASThatWork.gov
- Others you like …
FOCUS ON CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

SELF ASSESSMENT FOR PROGRAM IMPROVEMENT

✔ Are we carrying out activities required by IDEA?
✔ In what ways are we able to provide evidence that the services provided improve outcomes for families and children?
✔ Is our project serving all families?
✔ How effective are we at reaching all families?
✔ Are we building our organization’s capacity?
✔ How well do our Board & project staff work together?

FOCUS ON CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

A BRIEF NOTE ABOUT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

▪ Directors need to be knowledgeable about the structure of the organization, the funded project, and the project activities
▪ Directors should be updated often with complete, transparent information about the organization’s activities and finances
▪ Directors need to be knowledgeable about their roles and responsibilities

CHALLENGES

NOW AND IN THE NEXT FIVE YEARS

▪ Retirements and Changes in Leadership
  ▪ Strengthening Parent Leaders/New Directors Meeting
    ▪ New Project Directors, Board Chair(s), & Executive Directors should plan to attend
  ▪ Serving Youth
    ▪ Have you considered seeking TA from other parent centers?
    ▪ Don’t forget about OSEP’s other TA resources
▪ Changes in Federal Law & Policy Guidance
  ▪ ESSA, OSEP Dear Colleague Letters & Policy Statements
  ▪ IDEA Reauthorization