



C. A. R. E FOR COMMUNITY PARTNERS

**Cultural Awareness to
Relational Engagement
for
PARENTS/CAREGIVERS**

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PATH/FVCT SERVICES

PATH/FVCT is a **free** statewide grassroots parent organization. We are dedicated to offering emotional and informational support to families, promoting partnerships with families of diverse backgrounds, and collaborating with healthcare providers and community organizations to improve services and policies that serve our children.

What we do...

- Listener Program - One to one matching service
- CT Family to Family Health Information Center
- CT KASA (Kids AS Self Advocates)- Youth Leadership & Advocacy (ages 13-26)
- Sibling Leadership Network -Leadership Support & Advocacy
- Charting the LifeCourse
- Genetic Resources & Advocacy
- Special Education Advocacy
- Monthly Newsletter
- Speaker Programs
- Trainings

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Engagement with Police Dept./Emergency Medical Services

WHO?

- Any family that has a family member with a medical complexity/disability that may need emergency care often.
- Any family that has a family member with significant mental/behavioral health need.(e.g. ASD, Bipolar disorder, schizophrenia)
- Any person of color with the above needs.

ENGAGEMENT WITH LOCAL PD/EMS: STEPS

1. Find out contact information for your local; Police Department (PD) & Emergency Medical Services (EMS), local health department
2. Ask for a meeting with Police chief, dispatch manager, fire and EMS chief
3. If meeting granted, bring your family member, bring information about their medical condition, disability, mental/behavioral health need. If comfortable bring list of current meds.
4. If possible, bring information from school system that backs you up. (IEP etc.)
5. Speak honestly, share information and strategies that work with treatment, de-escalation
6. Give contact information of 2 consenting family members/caregivers
7. If you have a File of Life, fill it out and give copies to EMS, PD
8. Educate the individual and all involved family members/caregivers

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ENGAGEMENT WITH LOCAL PD/EMS: Why?

Engagement is important because:

- Priority response during disaster
- Builds trust and builds relationships for all involved
- Your information will educate EMS/PD how to respond to your family member (switch off lights/sirens, limit number of responders etc.)
- Your Information may help to de-escalate situation
- Might mitigate disastrous scenario, save lives

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ENGAGEMENT WITH LOCAL PD/EMS: 5 - TIPS

1. Get to know and develop relationships with Mayor, local state representatives who can help to facilitate meetings.
2. Bring an ally to meeting
3. Update your File of Life and any other pertinent information, including contact info
4. Talk to other parents who have had success in their local communities, learn from them, site any positive data or stories that might move PD/EMS
5. Educate, practice, role play with family member and other family members/caregivers

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PATH Parent to Parent / Family Voices of CT



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THANK YOU

For more information or to
request further training]

Contact us at:

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