



PARENTAL READINESS AND
EMPOWERMENT PROGRAM

A PROGRAM OF
THE LAWYERS'
COMMITTEE FOR
CIVIL RIGHTS

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NEWSLETTER

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Special Thanks to the Buck Foundation

PREP will grow and expand thanks to the generosity of the Frank H. and Eva B. Buck Foundation and several committed Frank H. Buck Scholars

PREP is thrilled to announce that a generous grant from the Frank H. and Eva B. Buck Foundation will lift the PREP community to new heights by supporting our online national platform and e-clinic. Thanks to the Buck Foundation, PREP will be able to provide better designed services to more parents. As part of this expansion, PREP will be adding two new staff members to its team to assist parents in advocating for their children's educational needs.

The Buck Foundation has its own impressive history of supporting education. The Buck Foundation was established in 1990 to increase the educational opportunities of exceptionally talented northern California youth who demonstrate "strength of character, enterprise, and personal initiative." For two decades, the Buck Foundation awarded scholarships to 282 individuals, enabling them to attend the world's leading educational institutions; push the frontiers of art, research and medicine; found new companies; and make significant contributions to their communities. As the Foundation closes this Spring 2016, PREP is grateful for the Foundation's support which will enhance our ability to help parents advocate effectively for their children's educational rights and needs. PREP also expresses its thanks to the group of talented Frank H. Buck Scholars who have committed to improving PREP's services by sharing their expertise across a range of fields, including: technology, law, and community outreach.

PREP greatly looks forward to strengthening the PREP community in the years ahead, an opportunity made possible by the Buck Foundation and its Scholars.

PREP IS HIRING! Do you enjoy empowering parents and advocates to improve access to a high quality education for all children? The Lawyers' Committee is seeking a creative, detail-oriented, and highly effective individual to serve as the Program Coordinator for the Parental Readiness and Empowerment Program (PREP) and Legal Assistant for the Educational Opportunities Project (EOP). This individual will play a critical role in expanding PREP's innovative e-clinic and national platform, which harnesses a range of tools to empower parents to better advocate for their children's educational needs and rights. The ideal candidate is driven to advance civil rights and is interested in utilizing a combination of various legal tools – litigation, pro bono legal advice, and community education and partnerships – to expand equitable educational opportunities. This individual will play a leading role in coordinating the PREP program under the supervision of the EOP Director and PREP Manager/Senior Counsel.

Deadline to apply is March 28

For more information and to apply visit: <https://lawyerscommittee.org/career-opportunities/>



Director's Comments

Happy Birthday to PREP! We are excited to celebrate 5 years of empowering parents to become stronger advocates for their children. Thanks to the initial support of the Qualcomm Foundation, we held our first parent workshop in San Diego on March 26. Since then, we have expanded services to an online platform, providing a mobile optimized website and video tutorials, webinars, and state-specific guides on education laws and policies. Now, parents from all over the country can access vital information, in English and Spanish, necessary to advocate for their children's education rights.

Over the past five years, we have served over 4,000 parents, providing over 50 workshops in multiple languages, hosting 6 webinars in English and Spanish, posting 25 video tutorials, and training 170 pro bono volunteers.

We are so grateful for the partnership of numerous organizations including the San Diego Unified School District, Minneapolis Public Schools, Arlington Public Schools, the YMCA, and the University of San Diego Law School's Advocates for Children and support from McGraw-Hill, Colgate-Palmolive, the Minneapolis Foundation, Anderson Kill, and Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz. Volunteers from DLA Piper, Morgan Lewis, Dorsey & Whitney, Lindquist & Vennum, Stinson Leonard Street, Fredrikson & Byron, Winthrop & Weinstine, BNY Mellon, Colgate, Crowell & Moring, WilmerHale, Winston Strawn, Manatt, Skadden Arps, and Simpson Thacher have staffed over 26 educational consultation clinics and researched and written over 100 state parent advocacy guides. With generous support from the PepsiCo Foundation, the Toyota USA Foundation, and the Frank H. and Eva B. Buck Foundation, PREP is able to continue expanding and empowering parents across the country.

On our anniversary, we look back on five years of successfully empowering parents to become stronger advocates for their children. We are excited to continue working to build a country where educational equity is a reality for all children and hope to make an even larger impact on the lives of parents and children in the years to come.

Natasha Quiroga is PREP Manager and Senior Counsel on the Education Opportunities Project

www.PREPparents.org

PREP Resources

Online Video Tutorials

Now Playing:

- Parent Advocacy (Sections 1 and 2)
- Abogacía Para Padres (Secciones 1 y 2)
- Navigating the School System (Sections 1, 2, and 3)
- Special Education Part A (Sections 1, 2, 3, and 4)
- Educación Especial, Parte A (Secciones 1, 2, 3, y 4)
- Special Education Part B
 - Section 1: Individual Education Program (IEP) Meeting
 - Section 2: Special Education and School Discipline
 - Section 3: Special Education and Harassment/Bullying
 - Section 4: Special Education Transition Services
- Educación Especial, Parte B (Secciones 1, 2, 3, y 4)

Coming Soon:

- English Language Learners
- Discipline Video Series

Find all PREP videos on the PREPparents Youtube Channel:
www.youtube.com/PREPparents at www.PREPparents.org.

Webinars

Coming Soon:

- **April 19, 2016:** English Language Learners
9:00 am PST/ 12:00 pm EST in **English**
2:00 pm PST/ 5:00 pm EST in **Spanish**

Now Playing:

- Webinar #1: Advocacy & Mobilization /Abogacía y Movilización Para Padres
- Webinar #2: Special Education I/ Educación Especial I
- Webinar #3: Special Education II (IEP) / Educación Especial II

Find all PREP webinars on the PREP website:
<http://prepparents.org/webinar/>.



PEP TALK FROM PREP!

Keeping Your Child Empowered

Being actively involved in your child's education is one of the most important things you can do as a parent! Share these tips with your child looking for a summer job!

Getting the Job

1. Prepare your resume

- Your resume is what makes you stand out. Make sure it includes all of your experiences and skills and looks professional. Reach out to adults for tips and advice!

2. Write cover letters

- The cover letter is where you tell the employer why you are the *perfect* fit for the job!

3. Prepare for an interview

- Prepare your professional outfit and practice common interview questions. Find someone who can give you a practice interview!

4. Be informed about the job

- Research the employer and learn its mission and history. Know what your responsibilities will be. This will help you know whether you want to work there and show them you are interested!




5. Use all your resources

- Many schools offer resources to help with your job search. Don't be afraid to reach out to adults for help and advice!



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-  Follow Us! www.twitter.com/PREPparents
-  Watch Us! www.youtube.com/PREPparents



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